

## DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 762.94/111 FOR Tel. #337, 11 a.m.

FROM China ( Johnson ) DATED Dec. 2, 1936  
TO NAME 1-1127 ope

REGARDING: Substitution of a Japanese consular office in Addis  
Ababa for a legation. Statement by Italian Ambassador  
that Italian understanding with Japan was concluded  
orally and provided only for the,-

mn

865D.01/214

GDG

214



865d.01

# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 762.94/110 FOR Tel. #581, 4 p.m.

FROM China (Lockhart) DATED Dec. 1, 1936  
TO NAME 1-1127 o r o

REGARDING: Probable that Chinese officialdom will be much more concerned over Japanese-Italian agreement regarding Abyssinia than over the Japanese-German Agreement.

mb

865D.01/215

GDG 2/5



765D.01/216

# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 765.94/33 FOR tel #247 4pm

FROM Japan ( Grew ) DATED Dec.1, 1936  
TO NAME 1-1127 GPO

REGARDING: Sending by Japanese Government of a  
Consul to Abyssinia.

dg

865D.01/216

GDG 2/6



December 11 1936 .

No. 785

CONFIDENTIAL - STAFF USE ONLY.

To the American Ambassador,  
Rome.

The Acting Secretary of State encloses for the confidential information of the American Ambassador copies and paraphrases of telegrams, as listed below, relating to recent negotiations between Italy and Japan affecting Ethiopia and "Manchukuo".

Enclosures:

No. 653, November 27, from Addis Ababa;  
No. 245, November 30, from Tokyo;  
No. 247, December 1, from Tokyo;  
No. 337, December 2, from Nanking;  
Mo. 584, December 4, from Peiping.

865D.01/216

FE:EGC

XII-9-36

DEC 10 1936



865D.01/216

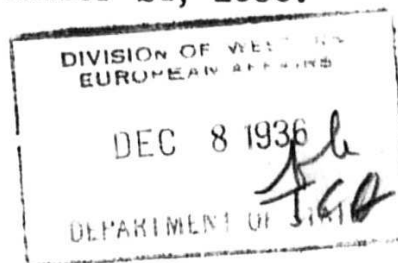
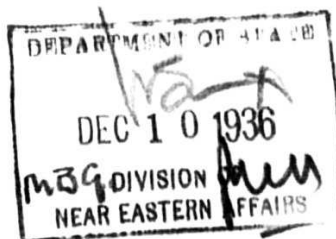
FP



NO. 1953 Political.

## AMERICAN CONSULATE

Geneva, Switzerland, November 24, 1936.



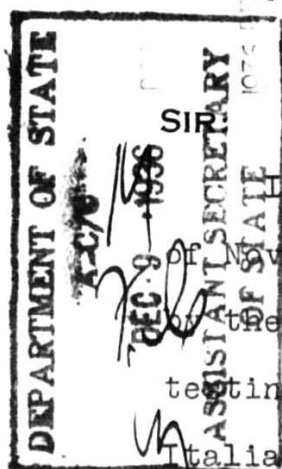
SUBJECT: Italo-Ethiopian Dispute - Transmission  
of Ethiopian Communication Protesting  
Against the Recognition by Austria and  
Hungary of Italian Sovereignty over Ethiopia.

1-1055

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE

WASHINGTON



865d.01/217

have the honor to refer to my telegram No. 477  
of November 24, 11 a.m. concerning a communication received  
from the Secretary-General from Emperor Haile Selassie pro-  
testing against the recognition by Austria and Hungary of  
Italian sovereignty over Ethiopia, and to enclose a copy  
1/ of League document No. C.510.M.322.1936.VII, giving the  
text of this communication.

Respectfully yours,

*Prentiss B. Gilbert*  
Prentiss B. Gilbert  
American Consul.

✓ Enclosure:

No.1: League Document No.  
C.510.M.322.1936.VII.

DPL/DH-EW

Original and five copies to Department of State.

One copy to American Legation, Bern, Switzerland.

DEC 11 1936

FILED



Enclosure No 1  
with No 1158 of  
Nov. 24 1936

LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Communicated to the  
Council and Members  
of the League.

C.510.M.322.1936.VII.

Geneva, November 23rd, 1936.

COMMUNICATION FROM H. M. HAILE SELASSIE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL.

The Conquering Lion of the Tribe of Judah,  
HAILE SELASSIE I,  
Elect of the Lord, Emperor of Ethiopia,  
To His Excellency M. AVENOL,  
Secretary-General of the League of Nations.

Peace be with you.

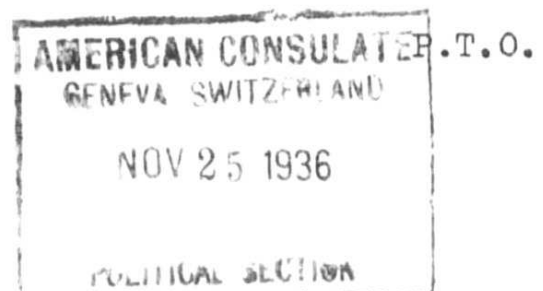
I would ask you to communicate the following to all  
the States Members of the League of Nations:

In October 1935, immediately after the Italian Government had invaded Ethiopian territory, the Council and the Assembly of the League of Nations pronounced that an aggression had been committed upon a Member of the League, and protested against the violation of Article 10 of the Covenant, whereby every State Member explicitly undertakes to respect the territorial integrity and political independence of other States Members. In July 1936, the Assembly proclaimed its resolve not to recognise any territorial acquisition brought about by force.

In violation of the Covenant and of the League's decisions, the Governments of Austria and Hungary have now officially announced that they recognise the occupation of Ethiopian territory by Italy as lawful and permanent, and the head of the aggressor State as Emperor of Ethiopia.

I strongly protest against this new violation of the Covenant and international conventions, of which the Austrian and Hungarian Governments have been guilty. I once more proclaim the inalienable rights of Ethiopia as a Member of the League of Nations. I affirm my unshakable resolve, and that of my Government and people, to spare no effort to put an end to the Italian adventure in Ethiopia and to restore the territorial integrity and political independence of the Empire. It is the will of God that forcible dominations should collapse with the same force as they were imposed.

I remind every Member of the League of Nations of the solemn undertaking he has given to every other Member by Article 10 of the Covenant. No aggressor can discharge the Governments of that obligation.





At a time when international morality and mutual confidence between States have been so severely undermined by the Italian aggression, and when the disastrous consequences of a policy of ignoring promises are making themselves felt in Europe, threatening to bring about a general war which would drench the world with blood, it is the duty and the interest of every Government belonging to the League not to bow down to violence, and not to recognise any territorial occupation effected by force, especially the occupation of part of the territory of Ethiopia, which has been secured, and is maintained, only by a horrible system of confiscation, torture, murder, and terror.

Given at Bath, November 20th, 1936.

(Signed). HAILE SELASSIE I,  
Emperor.

(Signed). HERUY W. S., Minister for Foreign Affairs.

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## TELEGRAM RECEIVED

RB

This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone. (A)

FROM

Rome

Dated December 7, 1936

Rec'd 4:09 p. m.

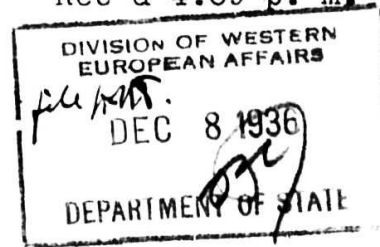
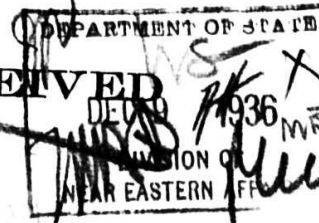
Secretary of State

Washington.

512, December 7, 7 p. m.

CONFIDENTIAL.

The British Ambassador called today evidently for the purpose of asking for information with respect to a change of personnel in Addis Ababa presumably basing his inquiry upon a press report from Washington published here to the effect that Hughes is being transferred to Addis Ababa as Consul General. Upon being informed of the Department's views he proceeded to tell me the situation with regard to British representation there. He said that all the smaller powers in Europe were pressing the British Government to come to some sort of an understanding with Italy concerning Ethiopia in the interests of general European peace and that his Government have now under consideration a change from diplomatic to purely consular representation. In his opinion this might well occur before the end of the present year. He added that discussions



865D.01/218

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RB

-2-#512, December 7, 7 p. m.  
from Rome

discussions were being carried on now between London and Paris with this in view.

Drummond said that while any step taken by the British Government would undoubtedly be qualified by a statement that it did not constitute "de jure" recognition it would nevertheless amount to "de facto" recognition. He admitted that he had discussed the matter with Count Ciano and that he had made it very clear that the British decision bore no relations whatsoever to the conversations now being carried on with respect to a Mediterranean accord.

The Ambassador was hopeful as to the success of these Mediterranean discussions. The accord he thought would be general in nature and would follow the lines of Eden's speech of November sixth. The only probable addition might be the inclusion of a reference to the desire of both Governments to maintain the status quo in the Mediterranean.

PHILLIPS

CSB



# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 123 H 875/190 <sup>Confidential File.</sup> FOR Tel. 171, 7pm.

~~FROM~~ Italy ( ) DATED Dec. 3, 1936  
TO NAME 1-1127 GPO

### REGARDING:

Recognition of Hughes in consular capacity:  
Transfer of Hughes to Addis Ababa is to be regarded as  
a purely routine administrative matter devoid of any political  
significance.

865D.01/219

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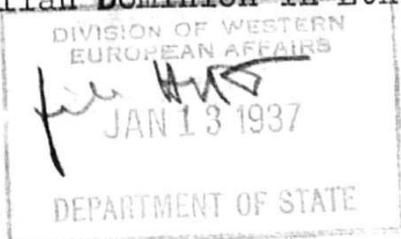


EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

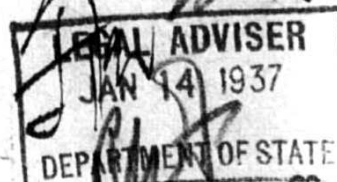
Santiago, December 2, 1936.

No. 426.

Subject: Denial by Foreign Office of Chilean Recognition  
of Italian Dominion in Ethiopia.



*Inter-  
am. Embassy  
Santiago  
12-13-36  
J. J. J.*



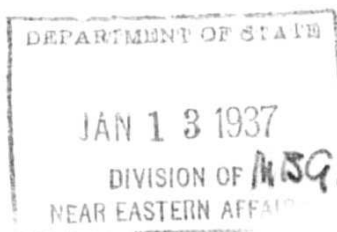
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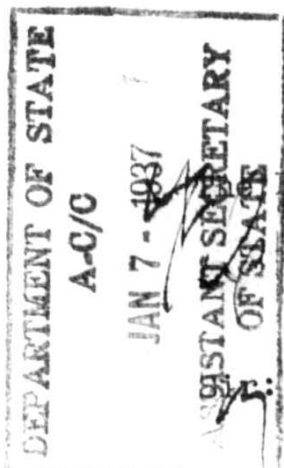
1936 DEC 8 PM 12 27

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS

NO. 9-204	DATE	TIME



865D.01/220



Honorable  
The Secretary of State,  
Washington, D.C.

I have the honor to inform the Department that the Chilean Foreign Office has received with considerable dismay press reports of the reaction in other countries following the presentation by the newly appointed Chilean Ambassador to Rome of credentials addressed to His Majesty Victor Emanuel, "King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia", thus implying the recognition by Chile of the Italian conquest of Ethiopia.

In the absence of the Foreign Minister, the Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, don Germán Vergara, hastily called representatives of the local press on

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JAN 19 1937

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the afternoon of December 1st and expostulated that news reports to the effect that Chile had recognized the Italian regime in Ethiopia were entirely erroneous. Señor Vergara insisted that the credentials of the Chilean Ambassador were addressed to the "King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia" because this title has been conferred upon His Majesty by the Italian parliament and is therefore the official title of the head of the Italian State. Señor Vergara insisted that any juridical recognition by Chile of the Italian dominion in Ethiopia would have been effected "in some other form". The substance of this interview was published in EL IMPARCIAL yesterday evening.

This morning the Government newspaper LA NACION issued a lame retraction of the remarks made yesterday by Señor Vergara, stating: "The Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs has not made any declarations and if he did make them he would not have said what is set forth in those paragraphs". At the same time the Santiago press published an official communiqué from the Foreign Office as follows:

"The Government of Chile wishes to maintain the continuity of its diplomatic relations with Italy and therefore does not wish to leave the Embassy at Rome without a head. The Italian Government, for its part, had previously officially communicated to our Government that the Italian Parliament had conferred upon His Majesty the King of Italy the title of 'Emperor of Ethiopia'.

"The credentials of Ambassador Cariola, signed by His Excellency the President of the Republic and by the Minister, don Miguel Cruchaga, in conformity with protocol were therefore addressed to the 'King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia'. The Chilean Foreign Office has acted in accord with the concept it holds with regard to the deference with which it ought to proceed in such cases, recognizing the title legally conferred by competent authorities.

"Jurists in each country will be able to discuss the ultimate significance and the juridical scope of such a decision."

There



There will be observed a discrepancy between the hasty declaration of the Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs yesterday afternoon and the text of the official communiqué which was later delivered to the press. The communiqué leaves ambiguous the question whether Chile has or has not recognized the Italian conquest of Ethiopia, although the Under Secretary was reported to have asserted that such recognition could not be implied from the wording of Ambassador Cariola's credentials.

The position of Chile with regard to the presentation of credentials by its new Ambassador at Rome is open to two interpretations. In the first place it seems fair to suppose that the Minister for Foreign Affairs realized when he signed the letters of credence of Ambassador Cariola that to address them to the "King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia" must have been open to the interpretation that it implied recognition of the Italian "Empire" in Ethiopia. This point of view seems the more credible because of the wide publicity given here to the policy of the Department of State in accrediting Ambassador Phillips solely to the "King of Italy" and in accepting the letters of credence of the Italian Ambassador at Washington as the representative solely of the "King of Italy". The Foreign Minister must have known, therefore, that to use the title of "Emperor of Ethiopia" would give rise to the conclusion that Chile in reality intended recognition. The fact that the Chilean Foreign Office now seems to be backing water may, therefore, possibly be ascribed to its dismay upon perceiving the unfavorable reaction which its covert recognition of the Italian conquest has encountered in



in Geneva, Washington and Buenos Aires.

The other explanation of the Chilean position is set forth in the official communiqué cited above; i.e., that the letters of credence were addressed to the head of the Italian state by his new official title and were of no other significance than the strict following of protocol. This morning a member of my staff was informed by the Acting Chief of the Diplomatic Section of the Foreign Office that Chile had merely directed the credentials of Ambassador Cariola to the "King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia" because it was his new title and that in no manner was recognition of the Italian dominion in Ethiopia implied. This may be taken as the official view of the Foreign Office.

In weighing the various aspects of the case the Embassy would point out that only four days ago in Buenos Aires the Chilean Minister for Foreign Affairs again emphasized that Chile's foreign policy is based upon firm support of the League of Nations. It would seem inconsistent therefore that the Foreign Minister should simultaneously pursue a policy of recognition of the Italian conquest in Ethiopia. At the same time it must not be forgotten that much of Don Miguel Cruchaga's pronouncements on the League of Nations are lip service only and that he was careful to abstain from the League vote of censure upon Italy.

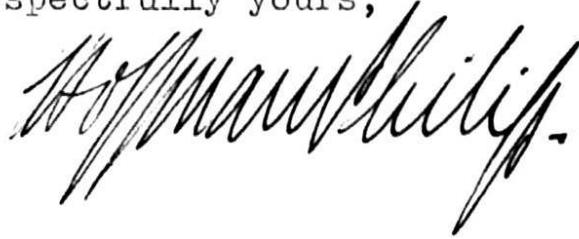
The Embassy is of the opinion that the Chilean Minister for Foreign Affairs has attempted to carry a pail of water on each shoulder. He sought quietly to recognize the Italian dominion in Ethiopia, at the same time swearing fidelity to the League of Nations. The furor aroused, however, by the presentation of Ambassador Cariola's credentials disabused him of this idea and

the



the Foreign Office has now hastily gone about on a new tack, making the pretence that the phraseology used in the letters of credence was not recognition of the Italian conquest of Ethiopia but a simple matter of protocol.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. M. C. Phillips". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Respectfully yours,".

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RMc:his.

x

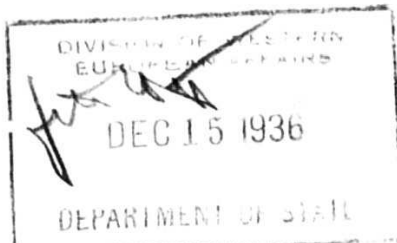
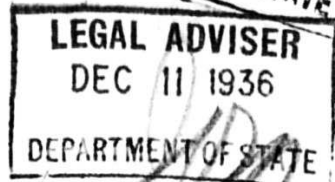
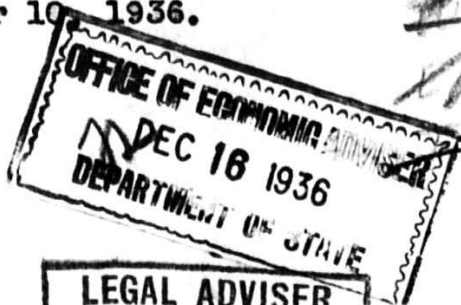




LEGATION OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
Addis Ababa, October 10, 1936.

No. 192

Subject: German Interests in Ethiopia.



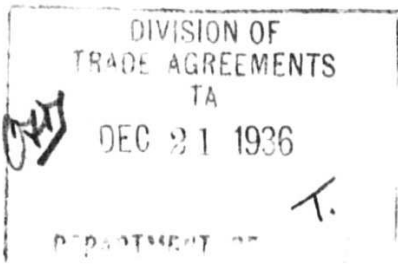
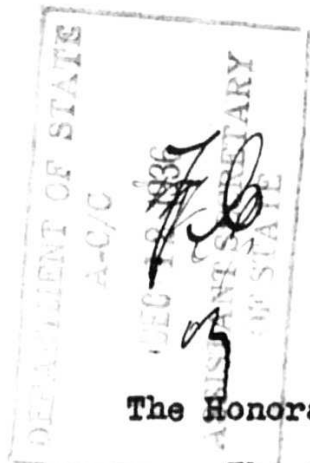
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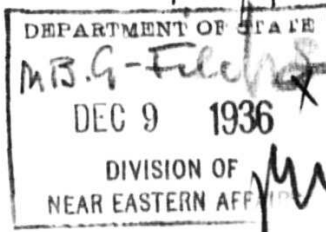
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

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In U. S. A.  
Embassy Rome  
Embassy Berlin

865D.01/221



Committed to (10)  
To Rome  
Berlin



The Honorable  
The Secretary of State  
Washington.

Sir:

865d.01/188

FILED  
JAN 11 1937

In continuation of the Legation's despatch No. 184 of September 20, 1936, I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy of a news item which, under a Rome date line, appeared in the London TIMES of September 19, 1936.

It obviously refers to the same meeting as that described in the abovementioned despatch, but is interesting because it stresses the possibility of close commercial

FP



cial relations between Germany and Ethiopia "through Italy", with which "an important clearing agreement" exists. The tone of the news report leads one to surmise that, presumably in return for Germany's benevolent attitude, German commercial interests in Ethiopia will - at least unofficially - receive preferential treatment.

When I hinted at such a possibility in conversation with my German colleague he laughed it off by saying that all Germany now hoped to get out of Ethiopia was a place where she could send her superfluous Jews, especially since the Arabs no longer wanted them in Palestine!

Although the German Chargé d'Affaires said this in jest it seems to be a fact that in German Jewish circles the matter has been given serious thought and appears to have been discussed with the Ethiopian Falasha (Jewish) leaders.

Respectfully yours,

  
O. Van H. Engert  
Minister Resident

File No. 710

CVHE/rlh

Enclosure: ✓

Copy of London TIMES news item.

Copy for Embassy, Rome.

Copy for Embassy, Berlin.

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862.4016



(From the London TIMES, September 19, 1936)

## GERMANS IN ABYSSINIA

Colony urged to remain

Rome, September 18.

One of the consequences of the application of "sanctions" was closer commercial collaboration between Italy and Germany, and a message from Addis Ababa to-day indicates that the Germans are desirous that this should continue also in the newly conquered territory in Abyssinia.

Addressing the German colony of Addis Ababa the former German Minister is reported to have invited its members to continue to reside in Abyssinia, for which he predicted a prosperous future. Germans, he said, should endeavour to develop trade with their mother-country through Italy, with which an important clearing agreement existed. He assured them that in Abyssinia they would enjoy the sympathy and support of the Italian authorities, and he referred to the "spiritual and social ideals" which Italy and Germany have in common.



Mr. Anderson

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 701.6560h/20 FOR Memorandum

FROM State Dept. NE ( Murray ) DATED Dec. 5, 1936  
TO NAME 1-1127 GPO

REGARDING:

Recognition of King of Italy as Emperor of Ethiopia:  
Italian Ministers to Belgrade and Tirana have avoided  
raising issue with their colleagues of - in presenting  
their credentials.

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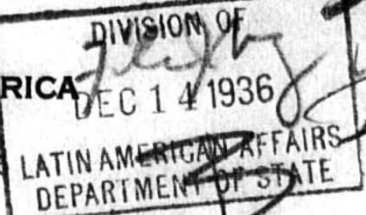




EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

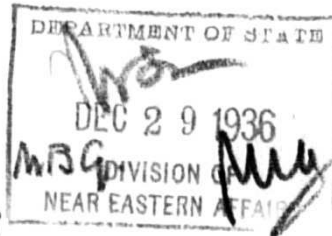
No. 431

Santiago, December 4, 1936



Subject: Chilean Recognition of Italian Dominion in Ethiopia

Confidential



DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

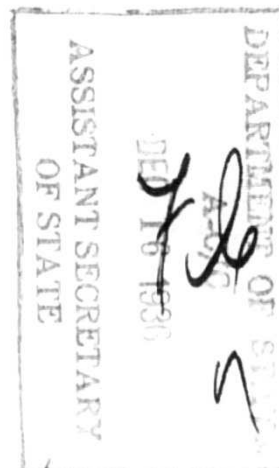
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865D, 01/223

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.



Sir:

865d. 01/220

I have the honor to refer to my despatch No. 426 of December 2, 1936, informing the Department of the denial of the Chilean Foreign Office that recognition had been extended to the Italian regime in Ethiopia.

I have to inform the Department that a member of my staff was told today by the Vice President of the United Press Association of South America, Mr. James I. Miller, that yesterday President Alessandri had privately informed him that in his

opinion



opinion Chile had extended de jure recognition to the Italian conquest of Ethiopia.

Respectfully yours,

RMMcC:lr1

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*W. M. Kilip.*

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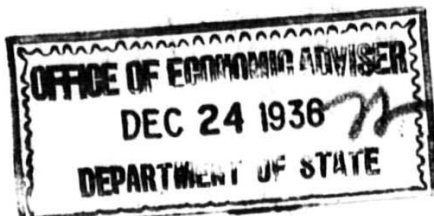


EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
ROME, December 2, 1936.

78282

No. 105

Subject: Italian Administration and Development of  
Ethiopia.



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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1936 DEC 16 PM 12 39

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

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Public Health - marked

865D.01/224

DEC 22 1936



The Honorable  
The Secretary of State,  
Washington.

Sir:

In continuation of my despatch No. 74 of

November 12, 1936 regarding the Italian administra-  
tion and development of Ethiopia, I have the honor  
to submit below a digest of information published  
here since November 12 with regard to Italian action  
and plans for the government and exploitation of  
the conquered territory.

Military and Political.

The official communiqués on the Italian troop  
movements, which were discontinued some time ago,  
are again being published from time to time as the

troops

DIVISION OF  
TRADE AGREEMENTS

DEC 30 1936

JAN 8 - 1936

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troops reach important points in the hitherto un-occupied parts of Ethiopia. This renewed emphasis on the process of territorial occupation is generally regarded as an attempt to strengthen Italy's international position and to refute the arguments against recognition of the empire based on the limited extent of Italy's effective sovereignty over Ethiopia.

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765,84

The Italian column led by Colonel Malta which occupied Lekemti on October 24, (Embassy's despatch No. 74 of November 12) reached Jubdo on November 17 and, after proceeding over particularly difficult terrain, occupied Gore in the morning of November 26. According to the official communiqué published in Rome on the following day, the Italian troops received "a warm welcome from the population." News despatches from Addis Ababa stated that not a single shot was fired between Jubdo and Gore and that everywhere the Italians were hailed as liberators. The press emphasized that there was no sign of the Ethiopian Government which the Negus claimed was located in this village. Reports were confirmed that Ras Imeru and Uoldizadic who were supposed to have taken over power in this region, had been made prisoners by Gallas. It is said that Colonel Malta's detachment will probably advance to the Sudan frontier in the near future.

On November 30 it was announced that the column under the command of General Geloso had occupied Allata and Uondo in the Lake district. Colonel Princivalle's troops moving directly from Addis Ababa on Giren, capital of the Gimma, reached that point on November 18. Another column is reported to be

advancing



advancing towards Aurussi and Bale from Harrar (Embassy's telegram No. 492 of November 27).

The eighty-year-old Deggiac Balcia, who offered some resistance to Colonel Princeville's column, was captured and shot by the Italians. Deggiac Gabre Mariam, Governor of Harrar under the Negus and chief of staff of Ras Desta Damteu, who swore never to surrender to the Italians, is reported to have been killed by the Gallas.


According to the press a number of important Ethiopian chieftains have recently sworn allegiance to Italy, among whom are Amatié Cattari, the commander of the palace guard of the Negus, Marcos, the former Ethiopian Minister to Turkey, and Ras Ghetaccio. Ras Ghetaccio, Ras Sejum Mangascia, and Ras Chebbede, arrived in Rome on November 24 for a visit.

A copy of a report on minor military operations in Ethiopia prepared by the Assistant Military Attaché to this Embassy, is enclosed for the Department's information.

Justice.

By Royal Decree No. 2010 of August 21, 1936, published in the Official Gazette of November 27, 1936, the Italian Government established a Court of Appeals at Addis Ababa with jurisdiction over Italian East Africa, and Courts of Assizes and civil and penal Tribunals at Addis Ababa and Harrar with jurisdiction over the territory of those Governments. (Embassy's despatch No. 103 of December 1, 1936).

865d.04



Labor



Labor.

865 d. 52

The following official communiqué regarding the number of Italian workers in Italian East Africa, was published in the press on December 2:

"From January 1935-XIV to November 30, 1936-XV there have been transported through the Commissariat for Migration and Colonization 155,599 workers to Italian East Africa. Taking into account those who have been repatriated upon the termination of their labor contracts, there are at present in the new territory of the Empire 102,754 Italian workers and more than 14,000 soldiers, who, demobilized in Ethiopia, have requested and obtained permission to remain and work in the Colony."

Compared with the statistics contained in the official communiqué issued on November 6 (Embassy's despatch No. 74 of November 12, 1936) the foregoing figures show an increase of 17,930 Italian workers and 2,000 demobilized soldiers in Italian East Africa during the month of November 1936.

With reference to the transportation of 30,000 laborers to Italian East Africa (Embassy's despatch No. 74 of November 12, 1936), the press has been reporting the departure every few days of contingents of from fifteen hundred to two thousand laborers from Genoa, Trieste, and Naples. According to the schedule, the transportation will be completed by December 19.

The press continues to report measures taken to protect Italian laborers in Ethiopia. A news despatch under Mogadiscio dateline of November 24 states that a surprise inspection of Fascist authorities revealing that the firm of Rosso at Bogol Magno was improperly feeding its employees, the Government imposed a fine of



100,000 lire and immediately dismissed the foreman of the firm.

Industrial and Economic Development.

865 d. 60  
It will be recalled that the Ministry of Colonies on September 16 and October 21 published lists of firms authorized to do business in Ethiopia (Embassy's despatches No. 1889 of September 16 and No. 47 of October 22, 1936). A third such list was published on November 14 comprising the following classes of firms: building materials, 6; chemical products, 2; machinery, 1; import and export trade, 2; restaurants, cafes, etc., 3; bakers, 8; foodstuffs, 9; butchers, 3; textile products and clothing, 9; and travelling salesmen, 5.

The Stefani Agency states that the Governor of Addis Ababa, with a view to controlling the cost of living, has given orders that merchants selling goods at unduly high prices will be punished by the closure of their shops, imprisonment up to three months, and fines up to three thousand lire.

The "Company of Tanners of Ethiopia" was recently formed in Rome. It plans to send a mission to Ethiopia to investigate the possibilities of establishing a tanning industry there, as most leather is now being spoiled by the natives through improper curing.

The Prefect of Naples on November 24, announced that, by order of the Duce, Naples has been designated the port for the importation, processing, and reexportation of hides from Italian East Africa.

The GIRONALE D'ITALIA of November 19 reports that  
mining

Commerce



865d.6361  
mining engineers have discovered important deposits of lignite of considerable heating properties extending over 100 kilometers between Debra Dreham and Debra Lihanos. As limestone has also been found within the same territory, which is about 60 kilometers from Addis Ababa, it is planned to make this district the chief center for the production of cement. On November 27 the press announced that rich deposits of lignite have been discovered by the Geological Service about 250 kilometers northwest of Addis Ababa.

865d.6341  
The Inspector of Mines of Eritrea announces that plans have been completed for the installation of complete modern gold mining equipment at Uguro and Sciumagollé. An examination is also being made of the gold deposits in the Jucambia district in the Western Basin.

865d.154  
According to a news despatch from Addis Ababa, there are more than 100,000 tons of merchandise at Djibouti awaiting transportation into Ethiopia. Most of it is said to be construction material, but there are included such items as 1,000 tons of furniture, 200 tons of radios and phonographs, 10 tons of tobacco, and 50 tons of Christmas specialities for Italians. At the rate of shipment on the Djibouti railway before the Italian occupation, it would take more than two years to move this merchandise. Although the railway is now carrying much more than formerly, the problem of transportation is said to be serious. The Italian authorities have therefore put a large number of laborers to work on the road which follows the railway from Djibouti to Moggio. This road will be extended to Dira Dawa and serve for the transportation of a large amount

Commerce



amount of merchandise by motor trucks.

Public Works.

865d.15  
The Minister of Colonies, Signor Lessona, who had been making a trip of inspection in Ethiopia since October 16 (Embassy's despatch No. 47 of October 22) returned to Rome on November 23. The Minister of Public Works, Signor Cobolli-Gigli, is still in Italian East Africa, where he has been inspecting the construction of roads.

865d.1561  
The press announces that four important firms have submitted competitive bids to the Ministry of Colonies for the construction of a port at Assab capable of accomodating large ships. It is estimated that the work will cost fifty million lire and take three years to complete.

Public Health.

865d.143  
On November 16 the Minister of Colonies laid the corner stone at Massaua for what will be the largest hospital in Africa.

Senator Aldo Castellani, who was in charge of sanitation in Ethiopia during the Italo-Abyssinian War, on December 2 opened a course on tropical medicine in the Clinic for Tropical and Sub-tropical Diseases at Rome. One hundred and fifty scholarships have been offered for this course in which ten professors will instruct.

Foreign Diplomatic Relations.

The press under Vienna dateline of November 12 quoting speeches made in Vienna by the Italian, Austrian, and Hungarian Foreign Ministers, emphasized the Austrian and Hungarian recognition of Italian sovereignty over Ethiopia. (Embassy's telegram No. 459 of November 12).

With

Continued  
Public Health



701.4184  
With reference to the withdrawal of the Indian troops which have guarded the British Legation during the past year (Embassy's despatch No. 74 of November 12), the press reported that Mr. Roberts, the British Chargé d'Affaires, called on the Viceroy on November 20 and officially notified him of the forthcoming departure of the troops. The contingent of 150 Sikhs left Addis Ababa on the train for Djibouti four days later, after being reviewed by the Viceroy at the railway station and given full military honors by two platoons of Askaris. News despatches added that the British officials were highly appreciative of the courtesies rendered.

701.5184  
On November 25 the French Legation Guard of 65 soldiers left the Ethiopian capital "with demonstrations of great Franco-Italian cordiality." The press asserted that, in addition to the withdrawal of the troops, there are many other signs that the French Government intends shortly to remove its diplomatic officials from Addis Ababa "since there is no longer any reason for their presence." All foreign troops have now left Addis Ababa, though a few Senegalese soldiers are reported to be still at Dire Dawa.

According to the press of November 28 the Italian Press Bureau on November 27 orally stated that an agreement had been reached between Italy and Japan by which Japanese recognition was accorded to Ethiopia in exchange for Italian recognition of Manchukuo. (Embassy's telegram No. 497 of November 28).

On December 2 the following official communiqué was published:

"Count

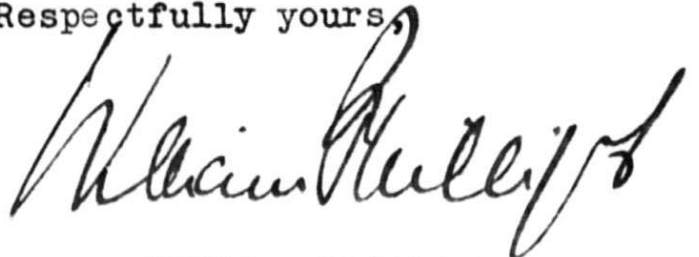


"Count Ciano received the Ambassador of Japan who informed him of the decision of his Government to transform the Legation at Addis Ababa into a consulate general, requesting the exequatur therefor from the Government of His Majesty the King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia.

"Count Ciano, after assuring him that Japanese interests in Ethiopia will be the object of special attention on the part of the Italian authorities, expressed to His Excellency Sugimura his satisfaction over the decision of the Imperial Government of Tokyo." (See Embassy's telegram No. 504 of December 2).

The Italian newspapers of November 30 state that the new Chilean Ambassador to the Quirinal was received by the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs to whom he handed a copy of his credentials, as well as a copy of the letter of recall of his predecessor, addressed to His Majesty, "The King of Italy, Emperor of Ethiopia."

Respectfully yours,



William Phillips

✓  
Enclosure:  
Italian Occupation of  
Western Abyssinia.

GG/gc

801



ITALY (COMBAT - ARMY).

Subject: Minor Military Operations.

Italian Occupation of Western Abyssinia.

The occupation of Western Ethiopia continues steadily and with decreasing resistance according to Italian press reports.

The Gelosa column, sometimes referred to as the special Division "LAGHI", has reached ALLATA. As previously reported, this column is based on NEGHELLE and has been operating via MEGA, first to control that important point of entry from KENYA and, second, because the direct NEGHELLE - ALLATA route is merely a mountainous trail impracticable for motor vehicles. In conversation with General Gelosa at NEGHELLE several months ago he told me that he proposed to establish a strongly fortified base at ALLATA or in that immediate vicinity and to open up the direct route to NEGHELLE. At that time it was passable to tractor trains as far as UADARA (100 kms. north of NEGHELLE). Ras Desta, although thoroughly discredited during the war, is still operating in this region with some semblance of organization and has given General Gelosa some trouble during the march north from MEGA.

The Malta Column, which moved from ADDIS ABEBA when the rains ceased and occupied LEKEMTI on October 24, has now reached GORE. It reports that there is no evidence of any Ethiopian government having ever been established there. Its next objective is GAMBELA, in the heart of the gold mining section where British interests have important concessions. There are rumors here that Mr. Erskine, the former British Consul at GORE, has organized a defense of the British concessions at GAMBELA with the aid of British troops from the Sudan. It is considered highly improbable that this defense is intended to oppose Italian occupation. More likely it is intended to safeguard British property and personnel until such time as the Italian troops can afford protection against the roving bands of Abyssinian "shiftas". It is further reported that Ras Daru, the most important of the few remaining Abyssinian chiefs opposing the Italian occupation has been taken prisoner by Galla tribesmen.

The Princivalle column, moving directly from ADDIS ABEBA on GIREN, capital of the GIMMA, reached that point on November 18. There is a fair road between ADDIS ABEBA and GIREN and although the distance is over 350 kilometers, Colonel Princivalle's task was easy as compared to that of General Gelosa and Colonel Malta.

The occupation of these three highly important points in Western Ethiopia establishes the framework for the struc-



ture of Italian control. It is now necessary to construct suitable motor roads connecting these points with ADDIS ABABA and to establish fortified bases and airdromes at each. Remaining guerilla resistance can then be dealt with suitably and effectively by the rapid transfer of troops and supplies to whatever point they might be needed.

NO COMMENT

NORMAN E. FISKE,  
Major, Cavalry, U.S.A.,  
Assistant Military Attaché.



DEC 1 1936

## CHILE RECOGNIZES ITALIAN CONQUEST

Envoy Presents Credentials to  
Victor Emmanuel as King and  
Emperor of Ethiopia.

### JAPAN'S ACTION DELAYED

Meanwhile Rome Tells  
China Italy Is Not Actually  
Recognizing Manchukuo.

Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

ROME, Nov. 30. — Foreign Minister Count Galeazzo Ciano today received the new Chilean Ambassador, who delivered to him a copy of his credentials addressed to Victor Emmanuel "If both as King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia."

Chile may therefore be considered to have formally recognized the Italian conquest of Ethiopia. She was the fifth country to do so, the others being Germany, Austria, Hungary and Albania. The part of Spain controlled by the Rebels has also done so.

Japan will certainly be the sixth to give recognition. Indeed, it is surprising that Japanese action has not already been announced, for an official communiqué on this subject was promised for today. Instead, it has been unaccountably delayed. The rather feeble excuse given in well-informed quarters is that it was not thought good politics to give fresh material for anti-Fascist speculations at a time when Russia is taking the offensive so aggressively. It is stressed that in

any case, the Italo-Japanese agreement is chiefly economic in the sense that it grants Japan certain trade facilities in Ethiopia in consideration of the fact that Japan recognizes the Italian conquest.

Italy, it is added, is ready to grant the same facilities to any other government recognizing the present de facto situation in East Africa.

An official communiqué announces that Italian troops under General Geloso yesterday occupied Allata and Wondo, dominating the great lake region of Southern Ethiopia. He is now reported

Marching southward toward Lake Rudolf.

This move represents a considerable step toward extending Italian control over the last remaining parts of Ethiopia into which Italian troops have not yet penetrated. It is particularly emphasized here that all the operations carried out since the end of the rains have necessitated the firing of few shots.

### Italy Minimizes Accord

Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

NANKING, China, Tuesday, Dec. 1. — While official announcements do not disclose details of yesterday's conversation between Foreign Minister Chang Chun and the Italian Ambassador Vincenzo Lojacono, it is understood that Nanking is dissatisfied with Italy's explanations of the forthcoming Tokyo-Rome agreement involving Manchukuo and Ethiopia.

It is reported in responsible quarters that General Chiang Chun voiced hope that in the interests of continued friendly Italo-Chinese relations, Italy would not grant recognition to Manchukuo. Ambassador Lojacono, in replying, is reported to have said the contemplated Italian action would not amount to formal recognition. He declared his government was anxious to avoid jeopardizing relations with China and agreed to refer to Rome the many detailed questions that General Chang Chun asked.

### Japanese Are Displeased

By HUGH BYAS

Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

TOKYO, Tuesday, Dec. 1. — Japanese officials are displeased by what they term magnified versions of the Italo-Japanese negotiations, which it is broadly hinted originate in Rome's desire to give the accord greater importance than it possesses.

Eiji Amau, Foreign Office spokesman, said today:

"We have not yet reached an

agreement with Italy. The stage has not been arrived at when a statement can be made."

It is emphatically asserted that Japan is not committed to anything beyond reduction of her legation at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to a consulate and to assistance in enabling Italy to open a consulate in Manchukuo. The latter is treated as a purely Italo-Manchurian affair.

The trade agreement contains no novel provisions but merely safeguards Japan's position as a trader in Ethiopia. The agreement will be published soon in the form of an exchange of notes.

Mr. Amau stated that rumors that the Berlin-Tokyo agreement was supplemented by a secret understanding regulating German and Japanese economic spheres in the Dutch East Indies are "entirely unfounded." He added that the Japanese Foreign Office had expected that the agreement would give rise to speculations about a military alliance but said this rumor regarding the Dutch East Indies was surprising.



# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 702.6865d/1 FOR Tel. 528, 5pm.  
FROM Italy ( Phillips ) DATED Dec. 15, 1936  
TO NAME 1-1127 070

### REGARDING:

Recognition of Italian Sovereignty:  
Request for exequatur for Consul General of Greece in Addis  
Ababa constitutes de facto and not de jure -

865D.01/225

FP



RB

GRAY

Rome

Dated December 15, 1936

Rec'd 3:44 p. m.

Secretary of State

Washington.

528, December 15, 5 p. m.

Official communique announces that the Greek Minister informed the Italian Foreign Minister of his Government's decision to establish a Consulate General at Addis Ababa and requested an exequatur for a Consul General. According to the Greek Legation here this constitutes de facto and not de jure recognition of Italian sovereignty.

PHILLIPS

RR



# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 701.4184/56 Confidential File FOR Tel.#538 noon

FROM Italy ( Phillips ) DATED Dec.19,1936  
TO NAME 1-1127

REGARDING: Proposed change in British representation at Addis Ababa to a Consulate General, exequaturs to be requested on understanding that such action does not constitute "de jure" recognition. Comment in this regard.

emc

865D.01/226

GDG

865-2.01  
226



227

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 702.4165d/2 FOR Tel. #623 2pm

FROM Great Britain ( Bingham ) DATED Dec. 22, 1936  
TO NAME 1-1127 ope

REGARDING:

Exequaturs for British Consular Officers in Addis Ababa  
will be sought from the Italian Government with the ex-  
press understanding that this does not constitute de  
jure recognition.

emc

865D.01 / 227

GMB

865D.01



U

GRAY

London

Dated December 22, 1936

Rec'd 9:26 a.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

623, December 22, 2 p.m.

Referring to exchange of views with Department on December 7th Foreign Office confirms the correctness of Rome press reports that the status of the British Legation at Addis Ababa will be altered to that of a Consulate General.

Foreign Office states exequaturs will be sought from Italian Government on the express understanding this does not constitute de jure recognition.

This announcement concludes a further step towards an Anglo-Italian agreement.

CSB

BINGHAM



DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

1228  
SEE 124.84/133 FOR Tel. #544 7p.m.

FROM Italy (Phillips) DATED Dec. 22, 1936  
TO NAME 1-1127 ope

REGARDING: Change in status of American Legation at Addis Ababa to a Consulate thus according "de Facto" recognition and that the U.S. will send a Consul at Addis Ababa believed and reported in newspapers as intention of the U.S. Government.

865D.01/228

WE KFC

865D.01



MED

GRAY

ROME

Dated December 22, 1936

Received 6:35 p.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

544, December 22, 7 p.m.

The following despatch is prominently published in this afternoon's papers under a Paris dateline but without comment:

"The Havas Agency receives from Washington 'it is learned from an authorized source that the Government of the United States will in the near future send a Consul to Addis Ababa'".

It was stated at this evening's press conference at the Ministry of Press and Propaganda that it was learned authoritatively that the United States intended shortly to change the status of its Legation at Addis Ababa to a Consulate thus according "de facto" recognition.

PHILLIPS

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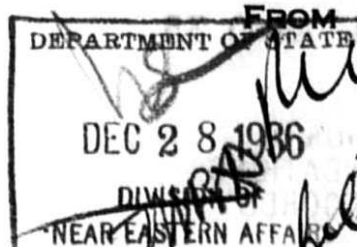


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U

1-1335

GRAY



Bern

Dated December 24, 1936

Rec'd 8:35 a.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

97, December 24, 11 a.m.



The press this morning makes announcement confirmed by Foreign Office that the Swiss Legation in Rome has been instructed to notify the Italian Government that the Swiss Federal Council recognizes Italian sovereignty over Abyssinian territory and as a result attaches this territory to the Consular District which is under the jurisdiction of the Swiss Legation in Rome.

WILSON

CSB

865D.01/229

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DEC 28 1936

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## TELEGRAM RECEIVED

U 1-1330

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closely paraphrased  
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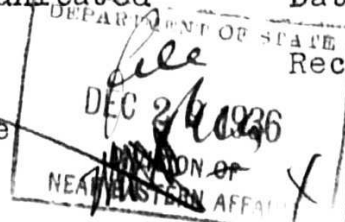
FROM

Rome

Dated December 24, 1936

Secretary of State

Washington



Rec'd 9:35 a.m.

DIVISION OF WESTERN  
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

DEC 24 1936

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

550, December 24, 1 p.m.

My No. 548, December 24, 11 a.m.

In view of the fact that twelve countries have  
already given de facto recognition to the new regime  
in Ethiopia, including all the great powers particularly  
interested, can we not start the new year by some announce-  
ment to the effect that the American Legation at Addis  
Ababa will shortly be transformed into a consulate?

PHILLIPS

KLP

DEC 31 1936  
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J 865D.01/230

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DEC 28 1936



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Washington,

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December 28, 1936.  
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AMEMBASSY

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

This cable was sent in confidential Code.  
It should be carefully paraphrased before  
being communicated to anyone. B

ROME

194 1/865d.01/230

Your 550, December 24, 1 p.m.

We are inclined to feel it would be better not to stress the proposed change in status of our representation at Addis Ababa by making any formal announcement at this time. Engert will probably be able to depart on leave towards the end of February and the change in status will become known at that time in a routine manner.

not  
124.84

Howe  
Acting

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Dec. 28 1936 PM

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Sent by operator M., 19.....

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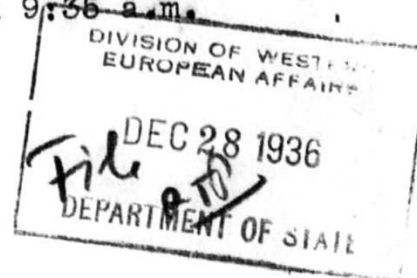
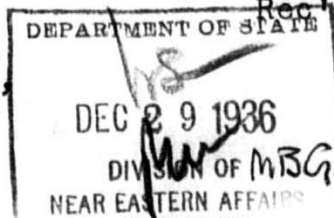
Dated December 24, 1936

1-1336

FROM

Rec'd 9:35 a.m.

Secretary of State,  
Washington.



548, December 24, 11 a.m.

My 543 December 22, noon.

According to an official communique published  
this morning the Swiss Minister has informed the  
Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs that his Govern-  
ment has de jure recognized Italian sovereignty over  
Ethiopia and has extended the consular district of  
its Legation in Rome to include that territory. It  
is also announced that the Belgian Charge d' Affaires  
has communicated his government's decision to replace  
its Legation in Addis Ababa with a Consulate General.

PHILLIPS

WMC:CSB

865D.01/231

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**TELEGRAM RECEIVED**

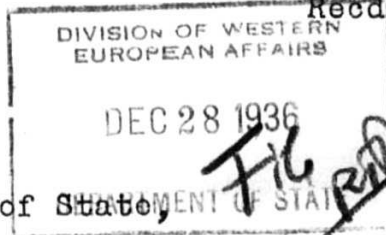
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1-1336

PLAIN  
FROM  
Addis Ababa

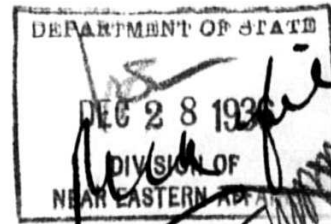
Dated December 24, 1936,

Recd. 25th, 5:15 p m



Secretary of State, DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington.



697, December 24, 2 p m.

It is announced that Switzerland has extended  
de jure recognition to Italian sovereignty over  
Ethiopia and will probably establish a Consulate here.

Belgium has decided to withdraw its Legation and  
to be represented by a Consulate General.

ENGERT

wsb

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DEC 28 1936

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Deleg. to Rome  
 12/29/36  
 NE-PH/195  
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PREPARING OFFICE  
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## Department of State DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington,

1936 DEC 30 AM 11 41  
December 30, 1936.

AMEMBASSY

ROME (ITALY)

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

This cable was sent in confidential Co  
It should be carefully paraphrased before  
being communicated to anyone. A

199  
Following is text of telegram from Addis Ababa/  
dated December 29: /QUOTE Confidential. A person close  
to the highest authorities here tells me that the Italian  
Government will accord no commercial facilities to the  
nationals of any country that has not recognized the Italian  
annexation of Ethiopia END QUOTE

Acting

NE PHA/GC

865D.01/233

Dec. 30 1936.

Enciphered by \_\_\_\_\_

Sent by operator \_\_\_\_\_ M., \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_,

865 D.01/233

G KFC



DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 702.6865d/2 FOR Despatch #123

FROM Italy (Phillips) DATED Dec. 17, 1936  
TO NAME 1-1127 000

REGARDING:

Recognition of Italian sovereignty over Ethiopia:  
Establishment of Greek Consulate General in Addis Ababa  
constitutes de facto but not de jure -

M

865D.01/234

GME



ROME, December 17, 1936.

No. 125

Subject: Greek Consulate General at Addis Ababa.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

In amplification of my telegram No. 528 of December 15, 1936, regarding the establishment of a Greek Consulate General at Addis Ababa, I have the honor to inform the Department that the following official communiqué was published in the press on December 15:

"The Minister of Greece, His Excellency Metaxas, informed the Palazzo Chigi that the Hellenic Government has decided to create a Consulate General at Addis Ababa, and requested an exequatur from the Fascist Government for the official who will reside there."

According to the Hellenic Legation here, this

request



request constitutes de facto but not de jure recognition of Italian sovereignty over Ethiopia--a step that the Greek Government is not prepared to take at the present time. The Legation adds that there are between 3,000 and 4,000 Greeks in Ethiopia and that it is felt that a career consul general is needed. Greek interests during the reign of the Negus were looked after by the Hellenic Legation at Cairo and by a Greek doctor at Addis Ababa, with the rank of honorary consul, who was personal physician to the Negus.

A number of the newspapers here tried to give the impression that Greece had formally recognized Italian sovereignty over Ethiopia. Editorial comment in general praised Greece's "realistic attitude." In this connection the PICCOLO declared that though Greece was fully loyal to the dictates of the League of Nations, she nevertheless recognized the situation in Italian East Africa. Could she, it enquired, keep up the fiction of a representative in Addis Ababa accredited to a person who was no longer there? The request for an exequatur, it asserted, showed that without touching the Covenant a de facto and de jure situation could be recognized. The GIORNALE D'ITALIA declared that the Greek decision was a realistic act which took into account Italy's real position in Ethiopia and Greek interests there, and that this practical act should be considered by those who obstinately refused to recognize an indisputable fact. It went on to say that the

Fascist



Fascist and corporative type of regime established in Greece, with its political and social affinity to Italy, undoubtedly favored the understanding shown by the Hellenic Government. "Today's decision is destined--after the eclipse of sanctions--to revive the friendship between Italy and Greece, a friendship formerly consecrated by a common pact and revealed in its real substance through the Italian initiative in improving relations between Greece and Turkey and bringing about a pact of friendship between them. This fundamental document cannot be forgotten, since it testifies to the respect that Italy holds for the positions of the various eastern Mediterranean countries and her desire and intention to live in accord and to cooperate with them. But Metaxas's decision has another importance which cannot be overlooked. Greece had adhered to British policy in the Mediterranean, which had been established for well known reasons. As soon as she could, she escaped from that policy, and Greece today reveals, as a Mediterranean power, a commendable independence of political conduct which takes realities into account."

Respectfully yours,

William Phillips.

GG/ge

801



# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 702.6593 Manchuria/13 FOR #442

FROM Harbin (LaMont) DATED Dec. 1, 1936  
TO NAME 1-1127 o p o

REGARDING:

Recognition of Italian conquest in Ethiopia by  
Japan: Copy of #284 to the Embassy in Peiping  
enclosing newspaper item in this regard.

enc

865D.01/235

865D.01  
FP



No. 442

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL,

HARBIN, MANCHURIA, December 1, 1936.

SUBJECT: REPORT OF ITALIAN RECOGNITION IN "MANCHUKUO".

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

SIR:

I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy of my despatch No. 284, dated December 1, 1936, to the Embassy at Peiping, on the subject of "Report of Italian Recognition in 'Manchukuo'."

Respectfully yours,

George D. LaMont,  
American Consul.

Enclosure:

Copy of despatch No. 284, December 1, 1936, to the Embassy at Peiping, with its enclosure.

In quintuplicate.

702

SDL:av



No. 284

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL,

HARBIN, MANCHURIA, December 1, 1936.

SUBJECT: REPORT OF ITALIAN RECOGNITION IN "MANCHUKUO".

The Honorable

Nelson Trusler Johnson,  
American Ambassador,  
Paiping, China.

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to despatch No. 237 of this office of June 20, 1936, entitled "Italian Consular Representation in Manchuria", and to enclose translations of two newspaper items in connection with a report that Italy has agreed to recognize "Manchukuo", will establish a Consulate General in Harbin, and that Japan will recognize the Italian conquest of Ethiopia.

According to Mr. A. Maffei, the local Italian Consul, he has received no official information on this subject. However, he believes that the report that Italy will establish a Consulate General in Harbin may be true because he has recommended this action. He believes that if this is done, he will be appointed the Consul General. However, he believes that this above would not be tantamount to recognition because such action could probably be taken without reference to the local authorities.

Respectfully yours,

George D. LeMont,  
American Consul.

- Enclosure: -




**Enclosure:**

**Translations of two newspaper  
items, appearing in the HARBIN  
NICHINICHI, November 30, 1936.**

**Five copies to Department by  
despatch No. 442, December 1, 1936.  
Copy to Embassy, Nanking.  
Copy to Embassy, Tokyo.  
Copy to Mukden Consulate General.**

**702  
GDL:av**





Enclosure to despatch No. 234 dated December 1, 1936, from George D. Lamont, American Consul, Harbin, entitled "Report of Italian Recognition in 'Manchukuo'."

SOURCE: HARBIN NICHINICHI, Japanese language daily, Harbin, November 30, 1936.

Translated by the American Consulate General, Harbin.

ITALY TO RECOGNIZE MANCHUKUO AND TO  
STATION CONSUL GENERAL IN HARBIN.

(Rome, November 28, Kokutsu)

An Italo-Japanese agreement including mutual recognition of fait accompli has been concluded as a result of a series of conversations between Japanese ambassador Sugimura and Foreign Minister Count Ciano in Rome. The Italian Government authorities issued the following statement at 11 a.m. Nov. 28:

- (1) The Italian Government recognizes Manchukuo and stations its consul general in Harbin. The Government has asked the Manchurian Government for a letter of agreement regarding the consul general. The Government has no intention of stationing a Minister in Hainking.
- (2) The Japanese Government recognizes the new Italian Empire with the Ethiopian colony under its sovereignty, closes her Legation in Addis Ababa and opens a consulate instead. The agreement concluded contains clauses regarding trade privileges.

TOKYO GOVERNMENT LACKS OFFICIAL INFORMATION  
REGARDING AGREEMENT WITH ITALY.

(Tokyo, November 29, Kokutsu)

Regarding the reported statement made by the Italian Government, the Tokyo Foreign Office has received no official information so far. The Foreign Office authorities stated in this connection as follows:

"It is true that negotiations have been under way in Rome arising from the Italian desire to open a consulate in Manchukuo and the Japanese intention of replacing the Legation by a consulate in Ethiopia, with certain demands pertaining to our trade privilege there. However, no official telegram on conclusion of an agreement has been received so far. The question of mutual recognitions of independence of Manchukuo and annexation of Ethiopia has never been dealt in. If the reported Italian statement on this subject is true, it may be that the Italian recognition refers to her opening of a consulate in Manchukuo, for it constitutes a de facto recognition."



# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 702.60c65d/1 FOR Tel.#14 7pm

FROM Italy ( Philips ) DATED Jan.11,1937  
TO NAME 1-1127 \*\*\*

REGARDING: Polish Consulate in Rome has been authorized to consider  
the territory of Ethiopia as falling within its territorial  
jurisdiction.

emc

865L.01/236

236FP



LMS

GRAY

Rome

Dated January 11, 1937

Rec'd 2:40 p. m.

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

14, January 11, 7 p. m.

A communique this evening announced that Ciano has received the Polish Ambassador who, under instructions from his government, informed him that the Polish Consulate in Rome had been authorized to consider the territory of Ethiopia as falling within its territorial jurisdiction.

PHILLIPS

WVC:CSB





EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
ROME, December 22, 1936

1329

LEGAL ADVISER  
FEB 8 1937  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

No. 132

Subject: Italian Administration and Development of Ethiopia.

DIVISION OF  
TRADE AGREEMENTS  
TA

FEB 8 1937

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JAN 22 1937

DIVISION OF MBG  
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

DIVISION OF WESTERN  
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

JAN 15 1937

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF ECONOMIC ADVISER  
FEB 2 1937  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1937 JAN 14 PM 2 51

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

A/C/C  
RECORDING DESK  
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Common pages 4-8 incl.

The copy page 6  
Copies of enclosure to  
Agriculture  
Commerce  
MID JAN 21 1937

365D.01/237

The Honorable  
The Secretary of State,  
Washington.

Sir:

In continuation of my despatch No. 105 of December 2, 1936, regarding the Italian administration and development of Ethiopia, I have the honor to submit below a digest of information published here since December 2 with regard to Italian action and plans for the government and exploitation of the conquered territory.

Military and Political.

According to an official communiqué published on December 10, the Italian forces in Ethiopia suffered the following losses from November 1 to November 30,

1936:

FILED

FEB 10 1937

GMB

765.84



1936:

Killed "during scouting and police operations":  
9 officers, 6 soldiers, and 2 Blackshirts.

Died of wounds: 1 officer, 2 soldiers, and 3 Blackshirts.

Died from disease and other causes: 6 officers,  
5 non-commissioned officers, 42 soldiers, and 24 Blackshirts.

The deaths of Italian laborers for the same period  
numbered 56.

The following official communiqué was also published  
in the Italian press on December 10:

"The period of operations begun on  
October 10 in the territory of the Govern-  
ment of Harrar has ended with the complete  
suppression of the rebellion in Cercer  
where there are no longer any signs of  
brigands, except in certain inaccessible  
regions in which brigandage has always  
been endemic.

"All the territory, even in the  
most remote valleys, has been covered by  
our troops. The chiefs have surrendered,  
the populations have turned over their  
arms, and the political and administrative  
organization has been started in the  
territory, which may be considered com-  
pletely pacified.

"The political and military success  
obtained in the post-war period is un-  
questionable and lasting, and can be  
measured by the number of arms captured  
or surrendered which total more than  
26,000 guns, 26 heavy machine guns, and  
86 light machine guns."

An official communiqué under Addis Ababa dateline  
of December 17 states that the occupation and political  
organization of the West and Southwest of Ethiopia con-  
tinues to develop favorably with the constant enthusiasm  
of the population. The Princivalle Column, continuing  
its

M I D



its swift advance from Aggaro Cotta, arrived at the Naso torrent on December 12 where it fought part of the forces of Ras Immeru, who escaped. The column under the command of Colonel Malta occupied Bonga, the capital of Caffa, on December 13, "after inflicting heavy losses upon bands of brigands, from whom a caravan was captured." On December 15 the advance guard of the "Malta" column, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Minniti, met the troops of Ras Immeru, who were attempting to cross the River Gogeb. After a short attack, 800 Abyssinians surrendered, turning over 600 guns and 5 machine guns. Later in the day Ras Immeru himself surrendered with the remainder of his forces, declaring that further resistance was futile. With the surrender of Ras Immeru only one of the Rases who led an army against the Italians remains in the field. He is Ras Desta, who is reported to have taken refuge in the region of the Lakes.

A communiqué also dated December 17 stated that the Cubeddu Column reached Ciulul and relieved Captain Cannonieri, who made a forced airplane landing in the vicinity and who had been "barricaded" with some missionaries there since June 9. This is the first intimation to be published that an Italian officer had been isolated in territory held by the enemy for so many months.

On December 18 a column from Dembi Dollo entered Gambela, near the border of the Sudan, where, it is officially stated, the Italian troops were cordially welcomed



welcomed by the natives.

The Deggiac Taie Gubelatie, surprised by the troops of Colonel Malta, in the territory of Deo Gogob, also surrendered with all his subordinates, while the Fituoded Uoldesadik has stated that he is ready to swear allegiance to Italy. It is believed that the whole region of Ghimira will shortly submit.

In the Northwest the troops of the Government of Amhara have been consolidating their occupation of the territory of Goggiam. The Deggiac Uondeuossen Cassa (a son of Ras Cassa) who recently attacked a small detachment of Italian troops after swearing allegiance to Italy, was captured and executed.

General Geloso, Governor of Galla and Sidamo, is at Irgalem with the so-called "Column of the Lakes" under his command. It is stated that he will definitively establish his capital at Gimma in the end of December and proceed to organize the political administration of his Government.

The column of General Navarrini has proceeded from Neghelli to Irgalem and opened up a road which will shorten the distance between Sidamo and Italian Somaliland by at least 300 kilometers.

On December 22 it was announced that the Italians in the Shoa district had captured and shot Deggiac Averra and Diggiac Asfauossen, two sons of Ras Cassa, thus ending all resistance in that region.

#### Economic and Industrial Development.

A mission composed of four engineers, sent by the National Association of Electrical Companies, left

Rome

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Rome by air for Addis Ababa on December 12. The mission will study the problem of producing and distributing electricity in the principal centers of the "Empire" (Addis Ababa, Assab, Dessie, Dire Dawa, Harrar, Mogadiscio, Massaua, Asmara, etc.). It will also look into the question of building two hydro-electric power plants at Addis Ababa. It is reported that another mission will probably be sent to study the possibilities of hydro-electricity from the Blue Nile.

A mission composed of merchants engaged in foreign trade recently left Naples for Addis Ababa to study means of marketing Italian goods in Ethiopia.

The mission sent to Addis Ababa by the National Fascist Federation of Tile and Brick Manufacturers a couple of months ago, has begun the construction of a brick factory.

A research mission of the A.G.I.P. (Italian Government Petroleum Organization) has recently arrived at Dire Dawa, Harrar, for the purpose of investigating the mineral resources of Ethiopia, especially as regards crude oil. Research will be carried out principally in the Harrar and Ogaden regions where oil deposits are believed to exist. The mission will also study the geological, mineralogical, and agricultural conditions of the territory. It is reported that the mission will operate in two groups. One group will investigate the territory around Harrar, and the other group the Uebi Scebeli Valley, gradually extending the work to the south and west as far as the Giuba Valley. The work will

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865d.6363

Continued



will be carried out in two periods of six months each, during the dry seasons of 1936-1937 and 1937-1938.

865d.502  
With a view to encouraging the construction of hotels in Italian East Africa, the Council of Ministers at its meeting on December 9th authorized the Government to take shares up to eleven and one half million lire in companies formed to construct and operate hotels in the Empire.

A translation of an article on Italian plans for Ethiopia, by Signor Lessona, the Minister of Colonies, is enclosed for the Department's information.

Financial.

865d.516  
A branch of the Bank of Italy was opened at Harrar to carry on transactions of a miscellaneous character in accordance with the development of requirements. An office for performing functions of the Treasury is annexed to the bank.

Roads.

865d.154  
The Minister of Public Works, Signor Cobolli-Gigli, who had been making a trip of inspection in Italian East Africa since October 13 (Embassy's despatch No. 47 of October 22), returned to Rome a few days ago. Before his departure from Addis Ababa, he expressed great satisfaction over the public works completed. In this connection he stated that work had been done in eight months for which the Duce had allowed a maximum period of two years.

The progress of road construction is now as follows:

Roads

Commence

Commence  
Treasury

Commence



Roads completed or shortly to be completed:

Massaua - Quoram; Barentu Om Ager- Setit; Asmara-Adua-  
following the Tacazzé.

Roads contracted for, which are guaranteed to be  
usable by June 1937:

Quoram - Dessié; Dessié- Assab; Tacazzé - Gondar.

Roads contracted for, which are to be finished by  
June 1938:

Debra - Tabor - Dessié; Addis Ababa - Gimma;  
Addis Ababa - Lekemti.

Roads to be contracted for and to be completed by  
December 1938:

Gondar - Debra Tabor; Debra Tabor - Addis Ababa;  
Amhara - Lekemti.

#### Aviation.

865.79665d

The press announces that the Ala Littoria in concert  
with the other air lines in Italian East Africa has in-  
stituted a tri-weekly air service between Rome and Addis  
Ababa. The number of weekly trips between various points  
of the "Empire" will hereafter be as follows: Rome -  
Asmara, 3; Asmara - Addis Ababa, 5; Asmara - Assab -  
Dire Dawa, 4; Asmara - Gorrehei - Belet Uen - Mogadiscio, 2;  
and Addis Ababa - Gorrehei - Belet Uen - Mogadiscio, 2. The  
airplanes will take two days and nine hours between Rome  
and Asmara; three days between Rome and Addis Ababa, and  
four days and about six hours between Rome and Mogadiscio.

Summary  
12

#### Foreign Diplomatic Relations.

The following United Press despatch was published  
in most of the Italian newspapers on December 7:

"The



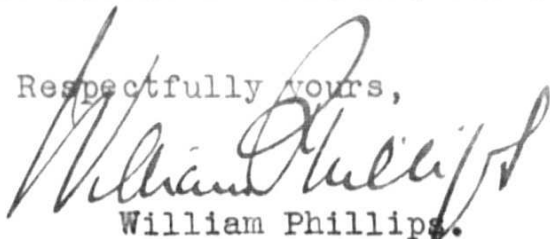
"The State Department announces that Morris Hughes, now an official of the American Embassy in Tokyo, has been transferred to Addis Ababa as Consul General. The Department refused to make any comment or to give information of any kind as to the form of the Consul's credentials."

702.6865d  
The Greek Minister at Rome on December 15 informed the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs that his Government had decided to establish a consulate general at Addis Ababa, and asked for an exequatur for a consul general. According to the Hellenic Legation here, this request constitutes de facto but not de jure recognition of Italian sovereignty over Ethiopia (Embassy's despatch No. 123 of December 17, 1936).

702.7465d  
According to an official communiqué published on December 22 "Count Ciano, the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs, received the Bulgarian Minister, His Excellency Pomenow, who informed him that the Government of Sofia had decided to create a consulate at Addis Ababa and had requested the necessary authorization from the Fascist Government. The authorization was immediately given." (Embassy's telegram No. 541 of December 21).

An official communiqué also published on December 22 announced that the Italian Foreign Minister had individually received the British Ambassador and the French Chargé d'Affaires who had informed him that their respective governments had decided to withdraw their Legations at Addis Ababa and replace them by Consulates General. (Embassy's telegrams No. 512 of December 7 and No. 543 of December 22).

Respectfully yours,

  
William Phillips.

Enclosure: 1  
Translation.

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(POPOLO D'ITALIA, December 11, 1936)

Remarks of Signor Lessona, the  
Italian Minister of Colonies.

(Translation)

I know that one of the questions which the Italian people asks with great eagerness is "Is it possible agriculturally to colonize the Empire?" "How many families of our magnificent farming stock will have land to cultivate in East Africa?" I answer at once that the Duce has called Scioa the "first zone of agrarian colonization" of the Empire. With this, among other territories, we violate the rights of no one and do nothing against the natives whose private property we have promised to respect. The situation is this. Around Addis Ababa conditions are favorable - good climate from every point of view, fertile land suitable for raising cereals and vegetables, plenty of spring water, and rain water which descends from the higher ring of Auasc, and the proximity of the chief places of the Empire which permits easy trade in the products of the soil. It can be understood that, under the former feudal regime of Ethiopia, these conditions attracted the attention and cupidity of various Neguses and Rases, who little by little concentrated in their hands all the land around the capital. Today, now that feudalism has vanished and the ex-Negus has fled, the Government General has in its possession this land, which we are giving to our veterans. The Duce has decided to create two initial principal centers, one west of Addis Ababa in the village of Oletta, the other to the east of Addis Ababa in the village of Biscoffu. Each of these

two..



two centers has several hundred hectares available at once. Cultivation has been begun, in conformity with the orders given by me when I went to Addis Ababa, by demobilized veterans who have been enrolled in the Opera Nazionale Combattenti with the willing cooperation given by Comrade Di Crollalenza. The construction of colonial houses for the farmers has been started. When these have been completed, the veterans will send for their families and in a short time there will be two centers of Italian colonization. These two centers are surrounded by a large territory of which eight thousand hectares belong to the Government. I hope that before long, Addis Ababa, the capital of the Empire, will be surrounded on every side by a region intensively cultivated and densely populated by Italians. The Duce has said that the Fascist Empire is an empire belonging to the people. In colonization we will follow the orders of the Chief. I do not need to add that, in building up the social and economic structure, the small holding system familiar to our farmers will be employed. All the properties will be close to Addis Ababa. I wish to say that the Duce has fixed the individual properties at ten hectares per family, taking into account all the circumstances which I have explained. It should be understood, of course, that the work begun at Addis Ababa does not include that being carried on in other parts of the Empire, such as at Harrar, for example, where smaller agricultural projects are being started.

Mineral researches are being carried on according to a methodical plan. There is no need for impatience,

however...



however, in this matter. We have organized the valorization of the mineral resources already known, beginning with the precious metals, gold and platinum. The A. M. A. O. (Mineral Company of East Africa) is installing the most modern gold mining equipment at the auriferous deposits of Eritrea and the "Prasso" and has presented to the Duce the first block of refined gold weighing 1300 grams. The Prasso has been remodelled in its organization as well as its equipment, and its activities were not interrupted even during military operations.

The defect in communications will be remedied by the road program for Italian East Africa drawn up by the Duce which is intended to develop in succession single regions. Already at Addis Ababa, Harrar, and Gondar, the construction of buildings necessary to the country has commenced. The war has undoubtedly produced in East Africa an inflation in the economic life, creating an artificial boom in business and a high standard of living, which has carried to a correspondingly high level salaries and merchandise. We must proceed carefully in this matter if we wish to avoid a harmful crisis.

The political situation is excellent. The occupation of the West and South is being carried out with the collaboration of the population, which, after forty years is freed from the hateful dominion of the Scioani Neguses. Our arrival signified for the natives of those regions the end of the slavery which had desolated the country and decimated the population. And with slavery also ended those forms of servitude which were so serious for the Gallas and other non-Abyssinian peoples, such as for example the famous system of "Ghebbar", by which the families of Galla villages were distributed among the soldiers...



soldiers of the Negus to provide for their maintenance. The victory of Italy ensured order and justice for all. The operations which are being concluded, give us a right to be proud of our troops and their leaders. I will give some data. Think that the Lakes Division, under the command of General Geloso, left on its advance into Sidamo from the camp of Hoghere Mariam, that it is more than fifteen hundred kilometers from its base of supplies at Mogadiscio, and that this took place during the heavy rainy season in Somaliland, which begins, as is known, in October. Everyone knows how Lekemti was occupied. A brilliant page of Italian heroism was written for us by the Gold Medalist Father Mario Borello, who, the sole survivor after the heroic sacrifice of his comrades, succeeded in organizing the Galla population, in putting to flight with their aid the Scioani robbers, and in preparing our definitive occupation. I do not speak of the Royal Air Corps whose exploits are countless - flights into unoccupied territory to make contact with chieftains and populations, to land men and goods in territory not yet reached by our troops as advance guards, to victual by air columns on the march, etc. Everywhere our aviators have excelled and contributed in the first line of victory. Once again the name of Marshal Graziani is linked to a glorious period of Italian colonial history, and the Italian people, which holds dear the leader-like face of the Marshal, should appreciate the full worth of the new success.

The internal policy of the Empire is based on two fundamental principles, which are and must be rigid:

(1) ..



(1) The dominion of the Scioanis over the other peoples and races of Ethiopia is finished. Each Ethiopian people - and the Scioanis equal with the others of course - is directly under the Royal Authorities without any other people between. At Harrar, for example, the people of Harrar now have their own native Moslem chiefs. The old Scioani chiefs, sent by the ex-Negus to enforce his debasing mastery over the Moslem people, have no longer any authority or power. East Africa has been divided up by the fundamental law of the Empire in accordance with ethnographic considerations, in such a way that each of the principal populations is included in a single Government.

(2) Feudalism and hence the system of Rases is finished. The Abyssinian Chiefs (I refer to those regions of East Africa where this system was in force) may still have the honorary title of Ras, but they have no political power of their own and are only officials of the local regional administration of the Empire.

I must say at once that the population has given full proof of its appreciation of the great advantages which it has derived from our two policies, and the enthusiastic welcome which our troops received upon their arrival in the country of the Gallas of the West, bear witness to this each day.

I believe that I can say that the first phase of our Empire activities is being concluded. The whole country up to the border of the Sudan and Kenya having been occupied and the political and economic foundations of the Empire having been laid, we can now develop the  
resources...



resources of the country. The continuity which Fascist policy ensures for our efforts and the tenacity which the Italian People will show once again, will have their reward.

\* \* \*



8652.01

# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 841.00 P.R./461 FOR #2745

FROM Great Britain ( Atherton ) DATED Dec. 28, 1936  
TO NAME 1-1127 ...

REGARDING: **T**IMES pointed out that "the Italian Government are known to appreciate that the British Government must reserve their attitude on de jure recognition, which is in no wise implicit in the withdrawal of the diplomatic Charge d'Affaires".

mb

865D.01/238

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# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 701.6514/15 FOR Despatch #165

FROM Guatemala (des Portes) DATED Jan. 13, 1937  
TO NAME 1-1127 070

### REGARDING:

Press items concerning official reception of Italian Minister to Guatemala shows no reference to Ethiopia, although he sent out various notes as representative of the King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia.

M

865D . 01 / 239

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239



# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 702.7165d/2 FOR Despatch #227  
FROM Rumania ( Hibbard ) DATED Dec. 31, 1936  
TO NAME 1-1127 \*\*\*

REGARDING:

De facto recognition of Italy's conquest of Ethiopia;  
establishment of Rumanian Consulate at Addis Ababa constitutes -

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865D.01/240

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RECEIVED

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

LEGATION OF THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Ciudad Trujillo, Santo Domingo, D. R.

DIVISION OF

JAN 21 1937

AMERICAN AFFAIRS  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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1937 JAN 19 PM 12 10

January 13, 1937.

No. 3724.

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

Subject: Implied Recognition by Dominican Government  
of the Italian Annexation of Ethiopia.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FEB 2 1937

DIVISION OF  
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

DIVISION OF  
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

JAN 30 1937

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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701.3965

Embassy Rome
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865D.01/241

CONFIDENTIAL.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Rome

1/27/37

Sir:

no card

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Referring to my despatch No. 3721 of January 12, 1937, reporting that Mr. Amadeo Barletta, titular Italian Consul here, who has just returned to this country, had been instructed by his Government to secure recognition by the Dominican Government of the title of Emperor of Abyssinia assumed by the King of Italy, I have the honor to inform the Department that, as I learn from Mr. Barletta, he had an interview yesterday with the Minister of Foreign Affairs on the subject.

According to Mr. Barletta, the Minister of Foreign

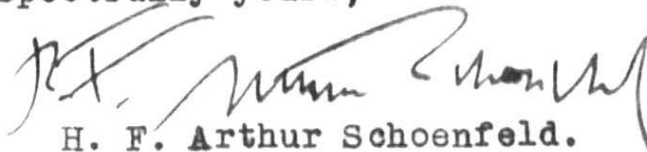
Affairs

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Affairs stated that the Dominican Government would accredit its recently appointed Minister to Italy, Señor Augusto Chottin, to the King of Italy and Emperor of Abyssinia. Mr. Barletta apparently was instructed to urge that the Dominican Government also announce publicly its recognition of the annexation of Ethiopia by Italy. The Minister of Foreign Affairs evidently demurred to this proposal on the ground that recognition would be implied in the address of the letters of credence of the new Dominican Minister at Rome, adding that, because of the impression a public announcement on the subject might make in other American republics and because the Dominican Government was a member of the League of Nations and a party to treaties which might be considered pertinent to the matter, it was not deemed expedient to make the public announcement desired by the Italian Government. Mr. Barletta told me that in view of Dominican recognition of the annexation of Ethiopia, represented by the proposed form of the letters of credence to be issued for the new Dominican Minister to Italy, he believed his Government would be satisfied with the explanation given by the Dominican Government for its unwillingness to make a public announcement.

Respectfully yours,

  
H. F. Arthur Schoenfeld.

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Jan 23 - E. R.



# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 701.6590g/20 FOR Despatch #733 Dip.

FROM Iraq ( Knabenshue ) DATED Dec. 11, 1936  
TO NAME 1--1127 870

### REGARDING:

Iraq refused to receive italian Minister to Iraq as a representative of the "Emperor of Ethiopia".

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Baghdad, December 11, 1936.

No. 733 - Diplomatic

Subject: Italian Minister to Iraq Presents  
Credentials

CONFIDENTIAL

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to despatch No. 729 - Diplomatic of December 2, 1936 (File No. 701.1/710), concerning Italo-Iraqi relations and to report that on December 5, 1936, Gr. Uff. Luigi Gabrielli presented to His Majesty the King the letters by which he is accredited Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Majesty Victor Emmanuel III near King Ghazi I.

No reference to the status of Ethiopia has been made by the Iraqi Government in official announcements of this presentation. Furthermore according to the custom here for the last two years, no addresses were made by King Ghazi or the Italian Minister when the latter

was

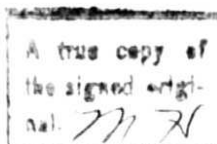


was received. A source eminently qualified to know, however, has informed this Legation that in spite of Italian wishes Iraq refused to receive the Minister as a representative of the "Empire of Ethiopia". The causes for the refusal obviously were the dictates of British influence in Iraq.

Respectfully yours,

P. Knabenshue,  
Minister Resident and Consul  
General

WB:MH  
File No. 701.1/710





# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 865.00 P. R./144 FOR Despatch #1010

FROM Austria ( Messersmith ) DATED Jan. 11, 1937  
TO NAME 1-1127 GPO

REGARDING: Intention of Austrian Government to establish a consular post at Addis Ababa in near future. Announcement in the Official Government gazette WIENER ZEITUNG concerning:-

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865D.01/243

GML



# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 339.115 General Motors Export FOR #3721  
Co./210

FROM Dominican Republic (Schoenfeld) DATED Jan 12, 1937.  
TO NAME 1-1127 ...

### REGARDING:

Amadeo Barletta on behalf of the Italian Government is endeavoring to secure the recognition by the Dominican Government of the title of Emperor of Abyssinia recently assumed by the King of Italy.

b

865D.01/244

GME



# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 701.6518/8 FOR Despatch #1325

FROM Costa Rica ( Collins ) DATED Jan. 16, 1937  
TO NAME 1-1127 870

### REGARDING:

Italian Minister to Costa Rica presented credentials naming King of Italy as Emperor of Ethiopia: President, in his remarks, referred to Italian Sovereign as King of Italy only.

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865D.01/245

GML



San José, Costa Rica,  
January 16, 1937

No.1325

Subject: New Italian Minister Presents Credentials

CONFIDENTIAL

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,  
Washington

Sir:

I have the honor to report that on January 12, 1937, Mr. Iginio Ugo Faralli, the newly appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Italy to Costa Rica, presented his credentials to the President.

Mr. Faralli is accredited to Nicaragua also, and will reside at San Jose. He replaces Mr. Italo Capanni, who was accredited to Panama and Costa Rica, and resided at Panama.

The arrival of a new Envoy focussed attention upon the question of the Italian conquest of Ethiopia.

Considerable



Considerable interest has been apparent in diplomatic and Costa Rican official circles and in the press over the designation of the Italian Sovereign in the letter of recall of Mr. Capanni and the letter of credence of Mr. Faralli. There has been speculation among diplomats over whether the Costa Rican Government would accept letters naming the King of Italy as Emperor of Ethiopia; and, as reported in the Legation's telegram No.63 of November 2, 12 noon, the Costa Rican Government has given serious attention to the action that it would take in the event of the presentation of such letters.

The letters presented did name the Italian Sovereign as Emperor of Ethiopia. The Government of Costa Rica raised no question in connection with this, but it is reported that in his remarks to the new Minister the President mentioned the Italian Sovereign as King of Italy only, and in the Presidential decree recognizing the new Envoy, published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE on January 14, the Sovereign is mentioned as King only.

1/2

A copy and a translation of the decree are enclosed.

Respectfully yours,

Harold M. Collins,  
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim.

Enclosure:

No.1 - Decree

No.2 - Translation

HMC:mc



Enclosure No.1 to despatch No.1325 of January 16, 1937,  
from the Legation at San José

OFFICIAL GAZETTE  
of  
January 12, 1937.

## SECRETARIAS DE ESTADO

### Cartera de Relaciones Exteriores

Nº 3

San José, 12 de enero de 1937.

Vistas la Carta de Retiro en que se hace saber al Gobierno de Costa Rica que el Excelentísimo Señor Italo Capanni, Oficial de la Real Orden de San Mauricio y

San Lázaro, Gran Oficial de la Orden de la Corona de Italia, etc. etc., ha cesado en el cargo de Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario de Su Majestad el Rey de Italia, y la que acredita con igual elevado cargo a Su Excelencia el Señor Doctor Iginio Ugo Faralli, Comendador de la Real Orden de San Mauricio y San Lázaro, Gran Oficial de la Orden de la Corona de Italia, etc. etc.,

EL PRESIDENTE DE LA REPÚBLICA ACUERDA:

Tener por presentadas las referidas Cartas, reconocer al Excelentísimo Señor Faralli en el alto rango referido, y ordenar que se le guarden las prerrogativas y exenciones correspondientes a su cargo.

Publíquese.—CORTÉS.—El Secretario de Estado en el Despacho de Relaciones Exteriores,—MANUEL F. JIMÉNEZ.



Enclosure No.2 to despatch No. 1325 of January 16, 1937,  
from the Legation at San José

TRANSLATION

No.3

San José, January 12, 1937.

In view of the letter of recall in which it is made known to the Government of Costa Rica that His Excellency Italo Capanni, Officer of the Royal Order of Saint Maurice and Saint Lazarus, Grand Officer of the Order of the Crown of Italy, et cetera, has ceased his functions as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the King of Italy and the letter that accredits in the equally high charge His Excellency Doctor Iginio Ugo Faralli, Commander of the Royal Order of Saint Maurice and Saint Lazarus, Grand Officer of the Order of the Crown of Italy, et cetera,

The President of the Republic Decrees:

The acceptance of the above-mentioned letters, the recognition of His Excellency Mr. Faralli in the high charge referred to, and to ordain that the privileges and exemptions belonging to his rank be observed.

Let this be published - Cortés. The Secretary of State in the Office of Ministry of Foreign Relations, Manuel F. Jiménez.



8652.01

246

# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 741.65/323 FOR Tel. #35, 5 p.m.

FROM Italy (Phillips) DATED Jan. 28, 1937  
TO NAME 1-1127 \*\*\*

REGARDING: Conclusion of Italo-British negotiations relating to East Africa. It has been explained to Embassy that although the agreement is welcomed as evidence of improved relations between the two countries, it has no bearing upon recognition.

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8652.01/246

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Rome

Dated January 28, 1937

Rec'd 3:10 p. m.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

35, January 28, 5 p. m.

The Italian press announced yesterday the conclusion of Italo-British negotiations relating to East Africa. Two accords were reached in the form of an unpublished exchange of notes between representatives of the two Colonial Ministries. The first of these grants certain grazing and water rights to British Somali tribes which have been accustomed to cross the frontier during the dry season and to pasture their herds outside British territory. This privilege is continued and the protection of tribes guaranteed. It also permits tribes under Italian jurisdiction to move into British territory. The second accord provides freedom of transit through the British ports of Zeila and Berbera for merchandise destined for Ethiopia and for the development of these ports and connecting trunk roads. It is to relieve freight congestion at Djibouti and along the railway.

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note  
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It has been explained to the Embassy that although the agreement is welcomed as evidence of the improved relations between Great Britain and Italy it has no bearing upon

recognition. 3 23



LMS 2-No. 35, January 28, 5 p. m., from Rome.

recognition. The Italian press comments favorably upon the agreement without reference to the recognition aspect but reproduces articles from abroad stating that it represents another step toward de jure recognition by Great Britain of the Italian conquest.

The Government spokesman writes this evening that the agreement is a concrete consequence of the Mediterranean Accord which formed the basis for resumed Italo-British collaboration and that it will unquestionably be followed by other agreements affecting relations between Ethiopia and adjoining British possessions in view of the common interests existing. The conquest of Ethiopia has thus created "although on a new and broader basis the source of permanent collaboration between Italy and England". He also states that Italy is ready to give cordial consideration to the legitimate interests of all countries in Ethiopia "when these are brought up directly with the Italian Government and when due account is taken of the accomplished facts".

PHILLIPS

CSB





LEGAL ADVISER  
FEB 15 1937  
EMBASSY OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Rome, January 13, 1937.

No. 155

Subject: Italian Administration and Development of Ethiopia.

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COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

A/C  
RECORDING DESK  
FILE - WHP

DIVISION  
OF EASTERN  
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS  
FEB 11 1937  
DEPARTMENT  
OF STATE

DIVISION OF WESTERN  
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS  
FEB 1 1937  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF ECONOMIC ADVISER  
FEB 12 1937  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
FEB 8 1937  
DIVISION OF  
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

*Copies: Excerpts as indicated*

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,  
Washington.

Sir:

In continuation of my despatch No. 132 of December 22, 1936, regarding the Italian administration and development of Ethiopia, I have the honor to submit below a digest of information published here since December 22 with regard to Italian action and plans for the government and exploitation of the conquered territory.

Military and Political.

No military operations of importance have been reported since the capture and execution of Degiac Averra Cassa on December 22nd. There appear to be only Ras Benene Mered and the few troops of Ras Desta Damton still opposing organized or semi-organized strength to the Italian occupation

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occupation. Reports by the Assistant Military Attaché, Major Fiske, on minor military operations in Ethiopia are enclosed for the Department's information.

On December 25 various government officials arrived in Gimma to prepare offices for the government of Galla and Sidamo, which will shortly begin to function there.

The column commanded by Colonel Belly and the troops of Ras Hailu, which had been conducting "police operations" in the north and west of Ethiopia, arrived in Addis Ababa on December 28th. After congratulating the leaders on their work, the Viceroy decorated Ras Hailu with the Silver Medal for Bravery and the Grand Cross of the Star of Italy. He also created two of Ras Hailu's subordinates "degiasmacs" and made a number of other awards.

In the presence of over two hundred Moslem and Coptic notables, the Viceroy on January 8th received the submission of twenty-three high officials of the former Abyssinian regime, including the former Ministers of Agriculture and of Posts, the Prefect and the Chief of Police of Addis Ababa, the Director General of Mines, the Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Director General of Finance, Uolde Mariam Aiela, onetime Abyssinian Delegate to the League of Nations and later Minister to Paris, the private Secretary of the Negus, the Commander of the Negus' Artillery, and the Governor of Gondar. Addressing the gathering, Marshal Graziani declared that a true social revolution was now taking place in Ethiopia, but this did not mean that their personal rights would be interfered with in any way. All were to keep the property handed down by their fathers, but everything else belonged to the Government, which would dispose of it in the interests of

of



of all. The right which they previously enjoyed to sell men like cattle was definitely ended.

The press on January 12th reported that Ras Immeru, who surrendered to the Italians on December 15th (Embassy's despatch No. 132 of December 22) and Deggiac Taghé Gulattié, arrived at Naples in the S.S. "Colombo", where they were transferred to the destroyer "Aquilone" which is taking them to the island of Ponza for exile. According to the press, Ras Immeru acknowledged the justice of his punishment and expressed gratitude towards the "King-Emperor" and the Duce for sparing his life.

The Viceroy, accompanied by his staff, is now making a visit of inspection to the Lake Region, where a number of local chieftains are reported to be swearing allegiance to Italy before him.

According to an official communiqué published on January 10th, the Italian forces in Ethiopia suffered the following losses from December 1 to December 31, 1936:

Killed in "police operations": 1 officer and 1 non-commissioned officer.

Died of wounds: 1 non-commissioned officer and 1 soldier.

Died from disease and other causes: 4 officers, 7 non-commissioned officers, 48 regular soldiers, and 16 Black Shirts.

The deaths of Italian laborers for the same period numbered 55.

#### Italian Racial Purity.

In order to prevent a mixture of races in Italian East Africa, the Council of Ministers at its meeting on January 9th approved the draft of a decree-law to make irregular sexual relations between Italians and natives, punishable by from one to five years imprisonment. Signor

Gayda

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Gayda, the official spokesman of the Foreign Office, in an editorial on January 10th, declares that while only irregular relations are condemned, it must not be concluded that marriages with native women are encouraged. Legitimate unions, he adds, are very rare and can always be combated in a number of ways, such as disciplinary action taken by the police, by the State against officials, and by the Fascist Party against its members. However, he concludes, the Fascist Government relies absolutely upon the conscience, civic dignity, and political maturity of the Italians living in the territories of the Empire. Signor Lessona, the Minister of Colonies, published a long article in LA STAMPA on the evils of mixed races. In this connection he declared that the policy of the Italian government would be:

- "(a) A clear and absolute separation of the two races;
- (b) Collaboration without promiscuity;
- (c) Leniency in the consideration of past errors;
- (d) Pitiless severity with regard to future errors."

Economic and Industrial Development.

Signor Tassinari, the Undersecretary of State for Agriculture and Forests, sailed on January 4th for Italian East Africa, where he will study the possibilities of developing the agriculture of the conquered territory.

By viceregal decree, the Governor of Addis Ababa has been authorized to assign land in Addis Ababa at 2 lire per square meter, for the construction of cheap, temporary houses. Purchasers must begin work on the houses within fifteen days after receiving the land and their houses must be inhabitable 120 days later.



The Federation of Combat Fasces of Harrar, with the authorization of the Minister of Colonies and the Government of Harrar, is organizing a "Permanent Exhibition of Italian Products" at Dire Dawa, with a view to acquainting the many natives who stop at this important caravan center, with Italian merchandise.

765 d. 63  
A despatch under Addis Ababa dateline of January 2nd reports that a caravan sent by the Viceroy from Addis Ababa arrived in Jubdo after an adventurous trip of eighteen days. The caravan, which contains five Italian mining experts and a number of natives, is to take over in the name of the Italian Government and appraise all mines formerly worked by the Government of the Negus. It will also prospect in the Jubdo Basin, which extends for more than 200 kilometers to Sciangul, for platinum, gold, iron, copper, and mica.

~~Minister of Colonies~~  
The following open letter to the Duce from the President of the newly formed "Ethiopian Mining Company" was published in the press on January 8th.

"I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that, in conformity with instructions, the Ethiopian Mining Company, a company of Italian engineers and industrialists with a capital of twenty million lire, which can be raised to fifty millions through options to be offered to the shareholders, has been formed today. The capital has been subscribed by the principal mining, commercial, and industrial interests. Among the largest subscribers are the following companies: Montecatini, Metallurgica Italiana, Fiat, Fertilizzanti Naturali, Italia, Montevecchio, Monteponi, Ilva, Zanoletti, Mineraria del Valdarno, Monte Amiata. - - -

"The Company is directed by an Italian engineer who for five years directed the prospecting in Katanga; the

adviser

*Agri culture & Trade*  
*and*  
*Commerce*



adviser is an Italian engineer who was formerly director of the gold mines in Uollega and geologist for Montecatini on the Franchetti expedition into Dankalia; the personnel is all Italian.

"The First expedition of technicians and prospectors has already reached Addis Ababa, and the second is en route to Ethiopia. - - -" Donegani, President of the Ethiopian Mining Co.

865d.61321  
A mission sent by the Cotton Company of Ethiopia left Rome for Ethiopia on January 9th to investigate the possibilities of increasing the cultivation of cotton in Italian East Africa.

865d.502  
The construction of hotels in the principal centers of Ethiopia is being considered by one of the technical commissions which have been constituted for the development of Ethiopia. Two companies with a total authorized capital of 115,000,000 lire, to which the State will add the sum of 11,500,000 lire, have been formed, one for building and furnishing hotels and the other for their management.

#### Labor.

865d.504  
The following official communiqué regarding the number of Italian workers in Italian East Africa was published in the press on January 8th:

"From January 1935-XIII to December 31, 1936 XV, there have been transported through the Commissariat for Migration and Colonization 167,110 workers to Italian East Africa. Taking into account those who have been repatriated upon the termination of their labor contracts, there are at present in Ethiopia 108,956 Italian workers and more than 15,000 soldiers, who, demobilized in Ethiopia, have requested and obtained permission to remain and work in the Colony."

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Compared with the statistics contained in the official communiqué issued on December 2, 1936, (Embassy's despatch No. 105 of December 2, 1936) the foregoing figures show an increase of 6,202 workers and 1,000 demobilized soldiers in Italian East Africa during the month of December 1936.

The Council of Ministers at its meeting on January 9th approved the draft of a Royal Decree to extend to Italian East Africa the laws in force in Italy regarding private employment and relations between employers and employees.

#### Banking.

On January 2nd, in the presence of Italian civil and military officials and native chieftains, a branch of the Bank of Rome was formally opened in Dessié.

#### Post and Telegraph.

The press reports that from May 15 to October 31, 1936, eighty-seven thousand quintals of correspondence and seventy-four thousand telegrams were handled by the Post and Telegraph service of Ethiopia.

#### Bus Service.

A motor bus service, to run at first every two days, and ultimately every day, is about to be opened between Massaua and Addis Ababa. It will permit the journey to be made in four days, and, it is expected, will relieve the heavy traffic on the Djibouti Railway and at the same time reduce the need for foreign currency to pay railway and freight charges. A similar service is to be inaugurated between Massaua and Gondar.

#### Foreign Commercial Relations.

The Agenzia d'Italia reports from Berlin that, during the third quarter of 1936, German exports to Ethiopia were



250 percent greater than during the same period of 1935. German imports of coffee and hides from Ethiopia also showed a great increase.

Foreign Diplomatic Relations.

754.65  
With reference to the conversion of various legations at Addis Ababa into consulates (Embassy's despatch No. 132 of December 22nd), an official communiqué on December 24 announced that the Swiss Minister had informed the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs that his Government had recognized de jure Italian sovereignty over Ethiopia and had included that territory in the consular district of its Legation at Rome.

701.5584  
It was also announced that the Belgian Chargé d'Affaires had notified Count Ciano of his Government's decision to convert its Legation at Addis Ababa into a Consulate General (Embassy's telegram No. 548 of December 24th)

702.7184  
On December 24th it was reported from Bucharest that the Rumanian Minister for Foreign Affairs had informed the Italian Minister there that his Government had decided to establish a consulate in Addis Ababa and requested permission therefor. On December 29th it was announced that the Fascist Government had consented with pleasure.

702.6384  
On January 6th a news despatch from Vienna stated that the Austrian Government intends to establish a consulate in Addis Ababa in the near future.

On January 11th an official communiqué was published to the effect that Count Ciano had received the Polish Ambassador who informed him that the Polish Consulate General in Rome had received orders to consider Ethiopia as under its consular jurisdiction. (Embassy's telegram No. 14 of January 11).



The press under London dateline announces that the British Chargé d'Affaires, Mr. Roberts, is leaving Addis Ababa on January 15th. The Legation will be converted into a Consulate General with a Consul General, a Consul, and three Vice Consuls.

Respectfully yours,

  
William Phillips

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Enclosures:

Reports by Asst.  
Military Attaché.

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Enclosure to despatch No. 155 of Jan. 13, 1937. ROME.

G-2 Report

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ITALY (COMBAT - ARMY)

Subject : Mimr Military Operations.

Résumé of Operations in Abyssinia October - December, 1936.

Maps: Africa Orientale. Istituto Geografico Militare, 1/1,000,000, 1934. ADDIS ABEBA, LAGO MARGHERITA, HARRAR, BALET UEN sheets.

Africa Orientale. Ministero delle Colonie, 1/2,000,000, 1936. Advance copy.

The campaign for the military conquest of Abyssinia was finished in June, 1936. At that time all organized resistance had been destroyed. The important cities and towns ADDIS ABEBA, DESSIE, GONDAR, DEBRA MARCOS, DEBRA TABOR, HARRAR, GIGGICA, DIRE DAUA and NEGHELLI had been occupied, garrisoned and fortified. On the high plateau the rains began late in June and the Italian effort was directed during the rainy season primarily to consolidation of their positions in the places above mentioned, to the establishment and stocking of advance bases at those points, the construction of landing fields and airdromes, the reorganization, operation and protection of the GIBUTI - ADDIS ABEBA railroad, the administrative control over the territory occupied, and the preparation for extensive field operations to complete the occupation when the rains ceased.

The close of the campaign in June left four important Abyssinian chiefs still holding out against Italian authority. The four months cessation in operations enabled them to organize such of their followers as they could assemble and to carry out guerilla operations against isolated Italian posts, working parties and on some occasions against the railroad and against ADDIS ABEBA itself. These sporadic attacks were not of serious consequence but were exceedingly annoying and often caused severe local losses. Every effort to win over these chiefs by offers of money and promises of land and position failed. When, at the beginning of October, the weather permitted the Italians to take the field against them they were disposed generally as follows. Evidently each is operating on his own. There is no central control and little if any cooperation.

Ras Averra Cassa (son of Ras Cassa Darghie). 5000 men. Operating in the UOLLO country between DESSIE and the Blue Nile and threatening the QUORAM - DESSIE - ADDIS ABEBA road as well as the DEBRA MARCOS - DEBRA TABOR route.

Ras Imirù (variously spelled Imirù, Immurù). 3-5000 men. In the GIMMA. Attempting to maintain control of Western Ethiopia and contact with the Egyptian Sudan.

Ras Desta Dantou. 2-3000 men. Remnant of the forces badly beaten near NEGHELLI in January, 1936. In the mountains east of the lakes. Threatening the isolated base at NEGHELLI and living by banditry on the inhabitants of the comparatively rich lake country.

Ras Beinane Mered. 8000 men. Remnants of the forces operating against Marshal Graziani on the Somaliland front. Never seriously



engaged and consequently undefeated in battle. Operating in the mountains at the headwaters of the UEBI SCHEBELI and the GANALE DORIA. Seriously threatening the railroad.

The work of overcoming this remaining opposition necessitated a great dispersion of the Italian forces. The territory occupied in consequence of the advance against the recalcitrant races had to be kept under control and protected against incursion by the bandits. The Italian plan called for some 15 separate expeditions controlled initially by GHI, later by the military governors of the respective territories.

GELOSO Column. 8000 men commanded by General Geloso, the military governor of the GALLA-SIDAMO territory. This force is also known as the Special Lakes Division (Divisione Speciale dei Laghi). Base: NEGHELLI. Route: NEGHELLI - MEGA - AGHEREMARIAM - SAMMARO - IRGALIM (1 December) - SODDU (12 December).

This force profited by the lighter rains in Southern Ethiopia and began its advance from NEGHELLI in September. It occupied the important port of entry into Kenya Colony, MEGA, and established there an advance base. It then turned north along the main route NAIROBI - ADDIS ABEBA which is a passable motor route in dry weather. Progress was slow at first for supply was a difficult problem and the roads had to be improved to handle motor traffic.

The column consisted of elements of the GENOA and AOSTA Cavalry regiments (machine gun units in Ford trucks), native Arabo-Somali troops and some light artillery. In the vicinity of AGHEREMARIAM it defeated part of Ras Desta Dantou's force and pushed on to occupy SAMMARO on October 17 and ALLATA on November 15. It established an advance base near ALLATA and prepared to change direction to the west to cooperate with other columns against Ras Imiru.

At ALLATA contact was made with the NAVARINI Column (vide sotto).

By December 12 the GELOSO Column was north of LAKE MARGHERITA in the vicinity of SODDU and in position to assist in closing in on Ras Imiru.

NAVARINI Column. 2000 men. Base: NEGHELLI. Route: NEGHELLI - UADARA - SUTA (10 December) - ALLATA. The column is composed of Arabo-Somali native troops and detachments of the GENOA and AOSTA Cavalry regiments (machine guns in Ford trucks). The road had been opened up as far as UADARA during the war. Beyond that point there was only a narrow mountain trail. The column has built the road as it progressed. By December 10 the road was passable as far as SUTA. Contact had been made by patrols with General Geloso at ALLATA.

The NAVARINI Column will open up the direct route from NEGHELLI to ALLATA and enable the Geloso division to be supplied direct without going through MEGA. The Geloso division however will eventually be based on GIREN (GIBRA) and supplied from ADDIS ABEBA. Navarini will also contain Ras Desta Dantou and protect Geloso's rear during his advance against Ras Imiru.

MALTA Column. 3500 men. Commanded by Colonel Malta. Base: ADDIS ABEBA. Route: ADDIS ABEBA - LEZOMTI (24 October) - CHIMBI - JUBDO (17 November) - KELLA Bridge (20 November) GABBAI Bridge (21 November) - NAPPO - KETTU (23 November) - GORE (25 November) DAB DIB - GOGEB Bridge (12 December) - BONGA (13 December) - GAMBELA (18 December).



This brigade left ADDIS ABEBA immediately after the rains had ceased. It moved first to LEKEMTI to reestablish for political reasons the control of that territory which was lost when an Italian air mission was slaughtered there in June, 1936. The column then pushed on to GORE where it had been claimed that an Abyssinian government was functioning. It was expected that Malta would then move on GAMBELA but instead he turned east and marched into the GIMMA to assist in the attack on Ras Imirù. After the reported capture of Ras Imirù the Malta forces turned west and on December 18 occupied GAMBELA, port of entry from the SUDAN.

PRINCIVALLE Column. 2000 men. Commanded by Lt. Col. Princivalle, chief of the Military Intelligence Section (G-2) during the war. Base: ADDIS ABEBA. Route: DEMBI - GIREN (18 November) - AGGARO - COTTA - VOGGA (15 December).

There is a fairly good road from ADDIS ABEBA to GIREN (GIMMA) and Princivalle made rapid progress. After occupying GIMMA which is to be the Italian capital of the GALLA-SIDAMO territory he moved on to VOGGA to tighten the net around Ras Imirù. Meanwhile General Tessitore relieved him at GIMMA.

TESSITORE Column. 2500 men. Commanded by General Tessitore. Base: ADDIS ABEBA. Route: LEKEMTI - ABBASEUA ? - GIREN - GIMMA (12 December). Tessitore moved first to LEKEMTI. There he left Colonel Milano with 2000 troops to protect the advance base from which both he and MALTA were operating and turned south on GIREN. He is now in position to close in with the three other columns on Ras Imirù. The territory to the south of Imirù is hostile to him. For the final operations against Imirù the Princivalle force will come under Tessitore's orders. As this is being written there is a report that Ras Imirù has been captured by or has surrendered to a detachment from the Malta column.

MARIOTTI Column. 2500 men. Commanded by General Mariotti who led the so-called DANKALIA or left flank column during Badoglio's advance from Eritrea to DESSIE. Base: ADDIS ABEBA. Route: ADDIS ABEBA - TADDEMARIAM - GONDI - TIGGIO (4 December). This is a native brigade of Eritrean Askari. It was at DESSIE during the rainy season. It marched from DESSIE to ADDIS ABEBA to open up that road which was closed during the rains. It then marched southeast along the railroad to the AUASO River, then south into the mountains east of the lakes. It reached TIGGIO on December 4 and will later join General Cubeddu (vide sotto) for operations against Ras Beinebe Mered.

TUCCI Column. 2000 men. Commanded by Colonel Tucci. Base: ADDIS ABEBA - UAYU - G. ALAGHA - ALLATA and return. The mission of this native force is to keep open the road between ADDIS ABEBA and ALLATA and to protect the surveyors who are preparing for the construction of the new highway.

CUBEDDU Column. LIBYA Division. 5000 men. Commanded by General Cubeddu an especially able leader of native troops who during the war commanded the 3d Native Brigade in the SCIRE and in the advance to GONDAR. Base: HARRAR. Route: HARRAR - TULLO - BATANISSA - DERBA (6 December) - GIUHL (17 December). The LIBYA Division, originally about 12000 men, has been reduced by battle casualties and repatriations due to sickness and expiration of enlistment term to little more than 5000. It moved from HARRAR southwestward



along the ridge paralleling the railroad. On December 17th it reached GIUMUL where it was able to rescue two Italian aviators who had been forced down there on June 9. With the help of friendly natives and arms and ammunition dropped by airplane they had protected themselves against the "shiftas" until the arrival of the Libyans.

MOLINARI Column. 2400 men. Base: DOLO (Upper Giuba). Route: DOLO - LANASCILLINDI - ARA ARBA - ARGADEB - ARA MUMED (12 December). This column has been constructing a military road as it advanced from DOLO up the UMBI GESTRA. It reached ARA MUMED on December 12 and is continuing its advance on MAGALO.

BERIO Column. 1600 men. Base: CALLAFO. Route: CALLAFO - GABBA - MINNA - LIDO (25 November). Like the Molinari column this force is building its road as it progresses along the upper UMBI SOBELI on GHIGHER. The four columns MARIOTTI, CUBEDDU, MOLINARI and BERIO, supported by Navarini and Tucci will cooperate to subdue Ras Beinene Mered and the few followers still at the command of Ras Desta Dantou. The territory south of Ras Beinene Mered's position is dry and barren. Now that the rains have stopped it is impossible to operate away from the principal streams. No water is to be found except at a few isolated wells. The upper reaches of the chief streams are dry but water may be found in the stream beds by digging shallow wells.

It will probably require more time to overcome Ras Beinene Mered for his troops are more numerous, better organized armed and equipped and have never suffered a decisive defeat.

GUBBA detachment. Base: GONDAR. Route: GONDAR - TUMHA - KIMAD - GUBBA. This force, sent out by the governor of the AMHARA territory, General Pirsio Birolli, moved through country generally friendly or at least not openly hostile and occupied GUBBA early in December without any opposition.

DEBRA MARCOS Brigade. 2500 men. Base: DEBRA MARCOS. Route: DEBRA MARCOS - ZEME (Blue Nile) - ABULLE (8 December). The mission of this native force is to keep open the road between DEBRA MARCOS and ADDIS ABABA and protect surveying parties and road workers who are converting it into a highway.

DESSIE, DEBRA TABOR, UORRA HU Operation. Bases: As indicated. Routes: roughly as shown on map. This is a projected operation now in course of preparation. It is designed to remove the menace of Ras Cassa and his 5000 warriors. Three brigades will take part in the affair, according to such information as could be obtained of the Italian plan. There is the equivalent of one native brigade at each of the above named places. In addition the general reserve at ADDIS ABABA is available and can be moved by motor transport wherever developments indicate its need.

Colonization. The Italian Ministry of Colonies states that it is premature yet to consider colonization on any large scale. The country is not yet subdued. Transport, communications and local resources are taxed to the utmost to take care of the extensive military operations still in progress and which are bound to continue throughout the present campaign season, that is until June, and possibly with decreased intensity, throughout the 1937-38 season. Communications



are not yet safe although they are becoming increasingly so as the military operations progress. Abyssinians still indulge in the pastime of shooting at trains and airplanes. The trains are heavily escorted and arms are provided for the passengers for their own protection in case of attack. Food is extremely scarce and prices of foodstuffs are high.

The division of the lands is under study. Obviously the land rights of the natives must be respected. The lands of the races who have not submitted to the Italians are being declared forfeited. The problem is difficult for the natives cultivated only a little of the best land. It is thought that some division of the good land must be made but in any case the natives must be so treated that they will be content with Italian rule. Extensive agricultural experiments are being made. As the occupation progresses small experimental farms are being established to determine the agricultural possibilities of the land.

Mineral Resources. Geological surveys are keeping pace with the military operations. Prospecting for oil, especially in the AUASC basin, is reported but opinion is divided as to the possibilities of finding it in commercial quantities. According to confidential statements by officers of the Colonial Ministry the country is proving to be much richer in other minerals, especially gold and platinum ores, than had been expected.

Religion. Italy is evidently determined to win and hold the support of the Ooptic and Mohammedan priests and to benefit by their influence in keeping the native population contented. Gifts of money, construction of churches and mosques and ostentatious official participation in religious celebrations have been the rule.

Communications. Mussolini has said repeatedly that roads and airdromes are the first necessities for the pacification and subsequent development of the Empire. Construction is being pushed with the utmost rapidity and the results obtained are little short of miraculous. Only when the extensive projected road net and air net are completed will it be possible to maintain order and security throughout this vast empire with the relatively small colonial army previously reported. In the meantime the expeditionary force will have to remain in East Africa and will have to be kept up by continued replacements from Italy and by the rotation of personnel.

Norman E. Fiske,  
Major, Cav., U. S. A.,  
Assistant Military Attaché.

Encl. : 2 maps (1 copy each).



## ITALY (COMBAT - ARMY)

Subject : Minor Military Operations.Operations in Abyssinia December, 1936.

Reference is made to ITALY No. 15700-6920, December 23, 1936. At the time that report was written an operation was in course of preparation designed to put down the resistance being offered by Averra Cassa, the son of Ras Cassa Darghie, who with about 5000 men was holding out in the UOLLO country. Averra Cassa had moved south toward ADDIS ABEBA and had reached the vicinity of FICCE. The operation has now been concluded. Averra Cassa and his brother have been executed and their followers dispersed.

The operation was carried out by five columns as follows:

TRACCHIA Column : General TRACCHIA. Base: DEBRA BREHAN. Route: DEBRA BREHAN - CIRCUIS - ROGHE on FICCE, from the east.

TOSTI Column: Colonel TOSTI. Base: UORRA MIU. Route: UORRA MIU - EMBERTERA - thence on FICCE from the northeast.

NATALE Column: Colonel NATALE. Base: DEBRA MARCOS. Route: DEBRA MARCOS - AMBATON - SHAPARTAG - thence on FICCE from the northwest.

BELLY Column: Colonel BELLY. Base: AMBA (90 km east of ADDIS ABEBA). Route: AMBA - MOTO KULIU - MKNARA - thence on FICCE from the southwest; with this column there were 4000 men of the native band of Ras AILU who had gone over to the Italians.

CARELLI Column: Colonel CARELLI. Base: ENTOTTO (ADDIS ABEBA). Route: ENTOTTO - DEBRA LIBANOS - thence on FICCE from the south.

The strength of these various columns is not definitely known but is believed to vary from 1500 to 3000 men each.

These five columns closed in on AVERRA CASSA, between December 20 and 25, cut off his escape and subsequently effected his capture. There was actually little fighting but the marches were rapid and very severe over this difficult terrain without roads. The march of the NATALE Column was perhaps most difficult of all as it had to cross the canyon of the Blue Nile.

The surrender of Ras IMIRU and the capture and execution of AVERRA CASSA leaves only Ras BERENE MERED and the few troops of Ras DESTA DAMTON still opposing organized or semi-organized strength to the Italian occupation.

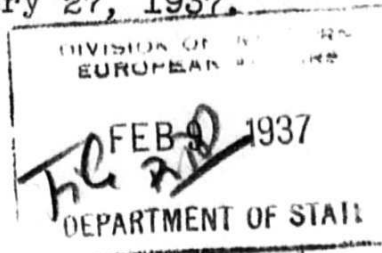
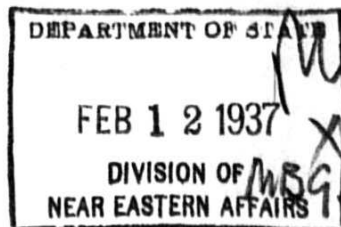
Norman E. Fiske,  
Major, Gen., U. S. A.,  
Assistant Military Attaché.



No. 2024 Political.

# AMERICAN CONSULATE

Geneva, Switzerland, January 27, 1937.



SUBJECT: Italo-Ethiopian Dispute - Communication from the Emperor of Ethiopia Protesting Against Swiss Recognition of Italian Sovereignty over Ethiopia.

1-1055

RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
FEB 8 8 PM 1937  
THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

AIR:

I have the honor to enclose two copies of League

1/ document No. C.77.M.40.1937.VII of January 25, giving the text of a communication dated January 21 from Emperor Haile Selassie protesting against the action of the Swiss Federal Council in recognizing Italian sovereignty over Ethiopia and, as a result thereof, in notifying the Honorary Ethiopian Consul General at Bern of the termination of his exequatur.

Respectfully yours,

Prentiss B. Gilbert

American Consul.

Enclosure:

No.1: Document, as above.

EPL/EW

Original and five copies to Department of State.

One copy to American Legation, Bern, Switzerland.

865D.01/248

FILED

FEB 13 1937

GMB



Enclosure No 1  
with No 2074 of  
Jan. 27 1937.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Communicated to the  
Council and Members  
of the League.

C.77.M.40.1937.VII.

Geneva, January 25th, 1937.

COMMUNICATION FROM H.M. HAILE SELASSIE TO THE SECRETARY-  
GENERAL.

(Translation) The Conquering Lion of the Tribe of Judah,

HAILE SELASSIE I,

Elect of the Lord, Emperor of Ethiopia,

To His Excellency Monsieur Joseph AVELLON, Secretary-General  
of the League of Nations.

Peace be with you!

I should be grateful if Your Excellency would communicate the following declaration to all the States Members of the League of Nations:

I. It is with extreme astonishment that I have taken cognisance of the letter dated December 23rd, 1936, addressed by the Federal Council of the Swiss Republic to the Consul of Ethiopia at Berne. That letter is in the following terms:

Berne, December 23rd, 1936.

Federal Political Department.  
Foreign Affairs Division.

Sir,

We have the honour to inform you that, at a meeting held this day, the Federal Council decided to recognise the sovereignty of Italy over Ethiopia. It necessarily follows that the Council is bound to regard the exequatur issued to you as Honorary Consul-General of Ethiopia as void, and the Consulate-General as non-existent.

On the termination of your activities as Consul-General of Ethiopia in Switzerland, we desire to place on record that you have discharged your duties with the utmost propriety and readiness of understanding. The Swiss authorities will retain the happiest recollection of the pleasant and cordial relations which have always existed between themselves and you.

I have the honour to be, etc...

(Signed) MOTTA

Federal Political Department.

Monsieur Emile BUHRLE,  
Consul-General of Ethiopia,  
Zurich.



In the above letter, the Federal Council officially announces that it has decided to recognise the sovereignty of Italy over Ethiopia.

By its decision, the Federal Council of the Swiss Republic causes incalculable prejudice to a State Member of the League of Nations. I protest with the utmost energy against this proceeding, which constitutes a violation of the international undertakings assumed by the Swiss Confederation.

In this connection, I wish to draw the attention of all the States Members of the League of Nations to certain circumstances which the Federal Council would appear to have overlooked in taking its decision.

II. When, as the result of a referendum, Switzerland became in 1920 a Member of the League of Nations, she duly signed the Covenant. Switzerland solemnly undertook, as towards all the Member States, to abide by the provisions of Article 10 of the Covenant, namely "to respect and preserve as against external aggression the territorial integrity and political independence of all Members of the League". In 1923 Ethiopia became a Member of the League of Nations. Switzerland thus became bound in relation to Ethiopia by the undertaking embodied in Article 10 of the Covenant.

On October 7th, 1935, the Council of the League of Nations unanimously adopted the report of the Committee of Six, which found that "the Italian Government has resorted to war in disregard of its covenants under Article 12 of the Covenant of the League of Nations." On October 9th, 1935, the report was also adopted by the States Members of the Assembly of the League of Nations, Switzerland included.

Nevertheless, on December 23rd, 1936, the Federal Council of the Swiss Republic, in disregard of all its international covenants, officially announced that it had decided to recognise the sovereignty of Italy over Ethiopia, that is to say, to recognise de jure the results of an aggression constituting a breach of the Covenant and consequently to regard the exequatur issued to the Consul of Ethiopia at Berne as void.

III. On March 11th, 1932, the Assembly of the League of Nations adopted the following resolution:

"The Assembly.....declares that it is incumbent upon the members of the League of Nations not to recognise any situation, treaty or agreement, which may be brought about by means contrary to the Covenant of the League of Nations or to the Pact of Paris".

Switzerland voted in favour of the above resolution, and on the same occasion the representative of Switzerland, M. Motta, declared that the results of the use of force could not be acknowledged by the League, for the League is based, first and foremost, on the idea of right and on the idea of justice.

The principle of the non-recognition of the results of the violation of treaties was first laid down in January 1932 by Mr. Stimson, the Secretary of State of the United States.



It was adopted by the Assembly of the League of Nations in March 1932. On August 3rd, 1932, it was embodied in the "Declaration of 19 American States and in the "Convention on rights and duties of States", signed at Montevideo on December 26th, 1933. World-wide endorsement has made it a principle of public law and international morality.

It is this principle which is openly violated by the Federal Council of the Swiss Republic in its decision of December 23rd, 1936.

IV. Switzerland, like Ethiopia, signed the Pact of Paris of 1928, by which the signatory Powers "solemnly declare in the names of their respective peoples that they condemn recourse to war for the solution of international controversies, and renounce it as an instrument of national policy in their relations with one another".

The contracting Powers "agree that the settlement or solution of all disputes or conflicts of whatever nature or of whatever origin they may be, which may arise among them, shall never be sought except by pacific means".

The Swiss Federal Council having solemnly recognised by its vote of October 9th, 1935 that the Italian Government had violated the Covenant and had been guilty of an act of aggression against Ethiopia, I cannot understand how it reconciles its international obligations and its votes with its declaration of December 23rd 1936, deciding to recognise de jure the results of the Italian aggression.

V. On July 4th, 1936 the Assembly of the League of Nations once more proclaimed its determination not to recognise any territorial acquisition obtained by force. It did so in the most unequivocal terms:

The Members of the League of Nations "remain firmly attached to the principles of the Covenant which are also expressed in other diplomatic instruments such as the Declaration of the American States dated August 3rd, 1932, excluding the settlement of territorial questions by force; being desirous of strengthening the authority of the League of Nations by adapting the application of its principles to the lessons of experience; being convinced that it is necessary to strengthen the real effectiveness of the guarantees of security which the League affords to its members".

The Swiss Delegate voted in favour of this resolution. I cannot understand the reasons for which the Federal Council of the Swiss Republic now states that it recognises de jure the acquisition by force of Ethiopian territories. Is this a manifestation of the desire to strengthen the League's authority, and of its conviction "that it is necessary to strengthen the real effectiveness of the guarantees of security which the League affords to its members"?

VI. Has the Swiss Federal Council forgotten that there is no country in the world whose existence depends so much on respect for the sanctity of international treaties? If Switzerland has succeeded in escaping, since 1815, the horrors of the wars which have ravaged Europe, is not this due to loyal respect for the clauses of the Treaty of 1815?



And yet the Federal Council of the Swiss Republic, whose very existence depends on respect for the treaties guaranteeing its independence, after making the declaration of March 11th, 1932, against the results obtained by the use of force, tramples under foot, by its declaration of December 23rd, 1936, the principle laid down in the treaties and thus gives its approval to the most cynical and horrible breach of treaties and to the crushing of a small people heroically struggling against an all-powerful aggressor. Has not the Swiss Federal Council forgotten the principle which it proclaimed in 1932, "The League is primarily and essentially based on the idea of right and justice"?

I hope with all my heart that God will preserve the Swiss people from all aggression and from the terrible sufferings which were inflicted on the Ethiopian people by its aggressor.

VII. By depriving the Ethiopian people of the protection of its Consul at Berne the Swiss Federal Council, without any excuse, has inflicted upon it a cruel wrong.

It is the Government of the country which has consented to be the seat of the League of Nations which strikes this terrible blow at a people martyred by a powerful aggressor. Does any international morality still exist? What is left of Western civilisation?

VIII. I would request you also to communicate the present declaration to the Council of the League of Nations at its next meeting, and to remind all the members of the League of the obligation which they freely accepted to defend Ethiopia's independence and territorial integrity against all aggression, and consequently not to recognise the conquest of Ethiopian territory by force in violation of the Covenant and of the international treaties which they have signed.

Done at Bath on January 21st, 1937,

(Signed) HAILE SELASSIE I.

EMPEROR.

(Signed) Herouy, S.S.

Minister for Foreign Affairs of  
Ethiopia.



## DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 841.00 P.R./475 FOR #2809

FROM Great Britain (Atherton) DATED Jan. 25, 1937  
TO NAME 1-1127 o r o

REGARDING: Review of the present position in Abyssinia by Mr.  
Eden.

mb

865D.01/249



**Abyssinia.**

On January 19, Mr. Eden, in answer to a Parliamentary inquiry, reviewed the present position in Abyssinia, calling attention to the extension of Italian authority into areas previously uncontrolled. He said that in the Western provinces, Jiren, Nekempti, Sayo, Gore, and the Ethiopian Customs station at Gambella have been occupied. The decision to withdraw the British Legation at Addis Ababa and to substitute for it a Consulate General, Mr. Eden maintained, did not involve the recognition of the annexation of Abyssinia by Italy and the assumption by the King of Italy of the title of Emperor of Abyssinia.



D  
M

## TELEGRAM RECEIVED

RR

This telegram must be \_\_\_\_\_  
closely paraphrased be-  
fore being <sup>1338</sup>communicated  
to anyone (B)

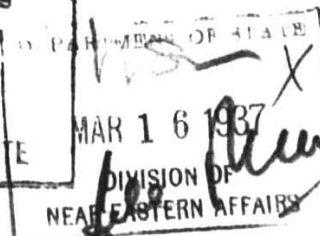
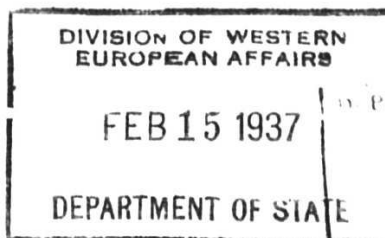
Rome

FROM

Dated February 15, 1937

Received 9:20 a. m.

Secretary of State,  
Washington.



54, February 15, 11 a. m.

*701,0184/56*  
CONFIDENTIAL. My 538, December 19, noon, paragraph  
*70165/323*  
two and 35, January 28, 5 p. m., paragraph two.

In a recent conversation with the British Ambassador he said that he was convinced that the question of seating the Ethiopian delegation would be the first business of the League meeting in May and that certainly the decision would be in the negative. He himself felt almost certain that following this decision his government would grant de jure recognition. He said that everyone in the Foreign Office was most anxious to dispose of the Ethiopian problem as quickly as possible and that therefore the Foreign Office influence would certainly be in favor of such recognition. He thought that the League's refusal to seat the Ethiopian delegation would serve as notice to every member of the League that it was free to do what it pleased with respect to recognition and he believed that a good many states would undoubtedly take this occasion to grant de jure recognition although others might delay in doing so.

RR WVC  
CSB

PHILLIPS

3657.01/250

FILED

FP





LEGATION OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Bern, February 4, 1937



No. 4796

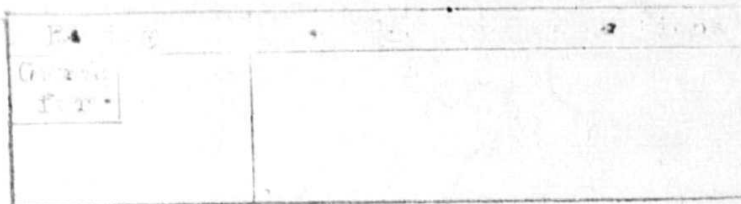


Subject: Conversation with Mr. Motta regarding recognition of Italian sovereignty over Ethiopia.

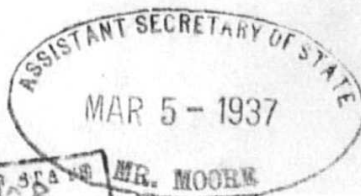
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COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS



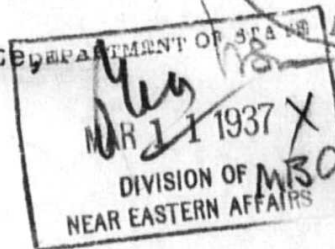
CONFIDENTIAL



The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.



Sir:

I have the honor to report that during a talk today, Mr. Motta brought up the question of the Swiss de jure recognition of Italian sovereignty over Ethiopia. Mr. Motta said that he had little sympathy with "Byzantine subtlety" in tracing distinctions between various forms of recognition. Most of its maneuvering had been for the purpose of face-saving before an inevitable necessity. The Swiss Government felt that their recognition was neither a blessing on Mussolini for his act, nor a repudiation of the Swiss vote in the Assembly condemning Italy's aggression. The Swiss recognition was rather what the word implies, the recognition of an existing fact.

Further

865D.01/251

GMB

965d.01

ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
OF STATE

MAR 9 1937

FILED  
MAR 17 1937



Further, Mr. Motta added that he believed that the Swiss recognition was really a help to the League of Nations. Many nations were anxious to recognize, but were preoccupied with saving their face. Once Switzerland had given the impetus, Poland and Turkey rapidly followed and others would now find it easier to regularize the situation. Thus Italy would return to League cooperation. Mr. Motta said that he would never have recognized de jure had not France and Great Britain done the equivalent, since they had both changed the status of their Legations at Addis Ababa into Consulates, and Great Britain was even occupied in negotiating with Italy as to questions of frontiers in that area. The French, Mr. Motta added, are angry with him for according the recognition. The French have been hoping to hold out the recognition as a bargaining point on which to get other favors. The value of French recognition as a bargaining point is now such that they will probably have to accord it gratis.

I told Mr. Motta of an incident which I had heard in Geneva as an evidence of the "Byzantine subtlety", with which this question of recognition was being treated. It appears that Mr. Holsti, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland, had been in communication with the Italian Government as to accrediting a new Finnish Minister, Mr. Erich, to Italy. As an ardent member of the League of Nations, Finland was unwilling to address the letter of credence to the King as "Emperor of Ethiopia". The Italian Minister in Helsingfors consulted his Government and approached Mr. Holsti with the suggestion that the

Finnish



Finnish Government write their letters of credence in any form they saw fit, but to address the envelope to "His Majesty the King of Italy, Emperor of Ethiopia".

Respectfully yours,



Hugh R. Wilson.

File No. 715

HRW/MK

4 Carbon Copies  
Received 

Quintuplicate



## DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 741.65/332 FOR MEMO

FROM Western European Affairs ( DUNN ) DATED Jan. 4, 1937  
TO NAME 1-1127 GPO

## REGARDING:

Memorandum of conversation with the British Ambassador during which he stated that the Italians were squeezing out all nationalities except Italian from Ethiopia and even the small merchants from various countries in the Near East were being forced out of business and the country as fast as could be arranged.

ge

8650.01/252

GML



# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE ..... 858.00 P. R. /233 ..... FOR ..... Despatch #698 .....

FROM ..... Sweden ..... (Steinhardt.....) DATED ..... Feb. 12, 1937 .....

TO ..... NAME ..... 1-1127 ...

REGARDING: Italy's annexation of Ethiopia. Rumors of Swedish recognition of, -. Editorials in the Swedish press on the subject.

fr

865D.01/253

GML<sup>3</sup>



### 3. RUMOR CONCERNING SWEDISH RECOGNITION OF ITALY'S ANNEXATION OF ETHIOPIA:

Following the announcement of the appointment of a new Swedish Minister to Italy, the NYA DAGLIGT ALLEHANDA (Conservative, Stockholm) of February 5 featured a rumor that the Swedish Government intended to recognize the King of Italy as the Emperor of Ethiopia in the new Minister's letter of credence.

In a statement to the press, the Swedish Foreign Office made the following denial:

"The Foreign Office has informed the press that the fact that a new Swedish Minister in Rome has been appointed does not indicate that the Swedish Government has changed its attitude on the question of recognizing the conquest of Ethiopia."

The DAGENS NYHETER (Liberal, Stockholm) of February 6 made the following editorial observation on the subject:

"We have learned that Sweden's new Minister to Italy will not for the time being assume his post in Rome. The question of the wording of his letter of credence has not yet been settled. The Italian Government has demanded that the King of Italy be also addressed as the Emperor of Ethiopia. This would mean an indirect recognition of the conquest of Ethiopia. However, most members of the League of Nations are of the opinion that the recognition, which sooner or later will be inevitable, ought to be given in some form through the League and not individually by the different states in the manner described above. Certain states, including France and Finland, have like Sweden appointed new Ministers or Ambassadors in Rome. They prefer, like Sweden, to be represented by Chargés d'Affaires for the time being.

"It is as yet uncertain when the matter will come up for discussion in the League of Nations. It is possible that it will not be before the meeting of the Assembly in September. Certain foreign press organs have advanced the theory that an extraordinary session of the Assembly will be held at an earlier date, or that the Council of the League will make a statement on the subject."



# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 701.2465/3 FOR Despatch #130

FROM Bolivia ( Muccio ) DATED Feb. 15, 1937  
TO NAME 1-1127 ope

### REGARDING:

Recognition of King of Italy as Emperor of Ethiopia:  
Italian Government has refused to accept letters of credence of  
Bolivian Minister to Rome unless they were made out to "His  
Majesty the King of Italy, Emperor of Ethiopia", which the  
Bolivian Government has refused to do.

M/

865D.01/254

GM454



# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 701.1965/9 ..... FOR ..... #929

FROM Panama ..... ( Summerlin ..... ) DATED Feb.18.1937  
TO ..... NAME ..... 1-1127 ...

REGARDING: Credentials of new Panamanian Minister to Italy imply  
recognition of the Italian sovereignty in Ethiopia.

enc ✓

865D.01/255

GA/RE



Panama, February 18, 1937

No. 929

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Letters of credence of Panamanian Minister to Italy imply recognition of Italian sovereignty in Ethiopia.

Minister to Italy also accredited to Belgium.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to the Legation's strictly confidential despatch No. 774, of October 20, 1936, reporting informal inquiry by the Panamanian Foreign Office concerning the form of address used in issuing credentials to our present Ambassador to Italy, the Secretary of Foreign

Relations



Relations stating that his Government desired to avoid suggestion of recognition of Italian sovereignty in Ethiopia.

The sense of the Department's strictly confidential instruction No. 234, of November 6, 1936, file No. 701.1965/7, was conveyed orally to the Secretary of Foreign Relations on November 19, 1936, the day of the receipt of the instruction. My despatch No. 878, of December 23, 1936, reported the publication of a decree naming Señor Antonio Burgos as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Panama "before the Government of Italy".

Despite the language of the decree (OFFICIAL GAZETTE of December 22, 1936), the Secretary of Foreign Relations admitted to me at a luncheon at the Legation honoring Señor Burgos before his departure for Rome via his late post at Habana that the Minister's letters of credence were being addressed to the King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia. He depreciated that any significance attached to the form of address used.

My decrees of January 14, 1937, published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE of the following day, Señor Antonio Burgos was named also as Minister to Belgium, Manuel María Valdes, Secretary of Legation at Rome, being appointed also as Secretary of Legation at Brussels.

Respectfully yours,

George S. Sumnerlin.



# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 863.01/482 ..... FOR Tel. 281- 7pm .....

FROM ..... France ..... ( Wilson ..... ) DATED Feb. 26, 1937  
TO ..... NAME ..... 1-1127 ..... 070

REGARDING: Italian sovereignty over Ethiopia. The Italians regarded the invitation of the British Government to the Negus to be represented at the coronation of King George VI as indicating that England did not intend to recognize, -.

fp

863.01/256

fp



LMS

This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone. (B)

Paris

Dated February 26, 1937

Rec'd 4:12 p. m.

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

281, February 26, 7 p. m.

I was told today by an Austrian who is closely in touch with the restoration movement that the change in the attitude of the Italian Government towards restoration as indicated in Gayda's article yesterday has been a great disappointment. This contact said that Schuschnigg's speech before the arrival of von Neurath in Vienna, in which the former permitted the possibility of restoration to appear more clearly than had been done before, had been made with the approval of Mussolini. The change in Mussolini's attitude had been caused, according to my informant, not so much by German pressure (von Neurath had indeed told Schuschnigg that the German Government was definitely opposed to restoration) as by Mussolini's resentment at the invitation of the British Government to the Negus to be represented at the (\*). The Italians regarded this invitation as indicating that England did not intend to recognize Italian sovereignty over Ethiopia and this feeling was accentuated by Italian uneasiness over British rearmament

particularly

WIE

863.01/482

841.01  
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Gerry VI



LMS 2-No. 281, February 26, 7 p. m., from Paris.

particularly the building up of the navy. In other words Mussolini felt that with this indication of what he regarded as being the British attitude toward Italy he could not afford at this time to do anything to alienate Germany. My informant said that it was of course obvious that the British invitation to the Negus had been merely a matter of protocol and of no political significance but that reliable information from Vienna and from his Italian contacts confirmed that the Italians put another construction on it. He said that almost anything might be expected from the Italians now; in fact he would not be surprised if before long the Italians might let it be known that in their view the maintenance of Austrian independence was not really essential to the peace of Europe.

Copies to London, Rome, Vienna.

WILSON

CSB

(\*) Apparent omission.



257

# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 841.001 George VI/48 FOR tel. #78 noon

FROM Italy ( Phillips ) DATED Feb. 26, 1937  
TO NAME 1-1127 . . .

REGARDING: Invitation extended to the ex-Emperor of Ethiopia  
at the Coronation. Comment of Ciano, Minister  
Foreign Affairs concerning.

fo

365D.01/257

GMB



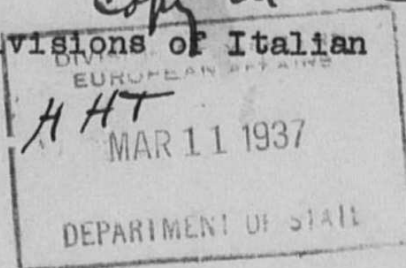


LEGATION OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Addis Ababa, January 25, 1937.

No. 230.

Subject: Administrative Subdivisions of Italian  
East Africa.



8652.01  
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

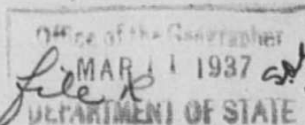
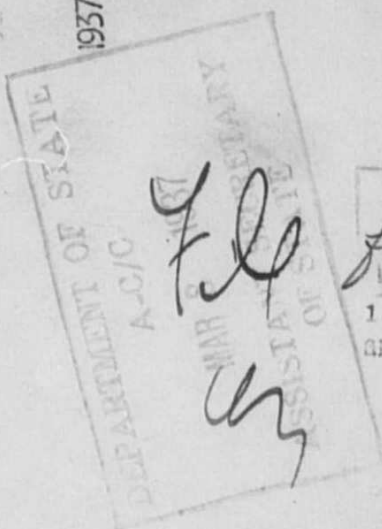
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DIVISION OF  
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FOR DISTRIBUTION - CHECK

To the Field  
In U. S. A.

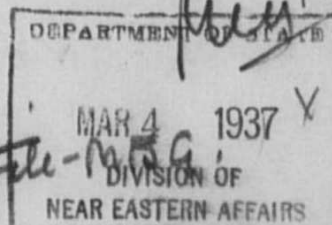
*Copy to Embassy Rome*



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*3/8/37*

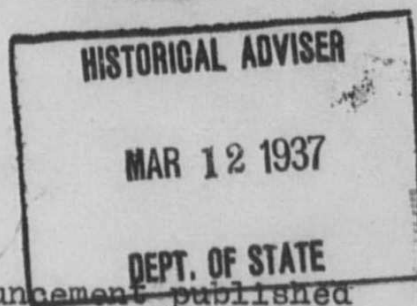


The Honorable

The Secretary of State,  
Washington.

Sir:

According to an official announcement published here on January 21, 1937, each of the five Governments which have constituted Italian East Africa since the organic act of June, 1936, is to be subdivided into Commissariats ("Commissariati"). This announcement is motivated by the fact that "all territories of the Empire have now been occupied".





I therefore have the honor to list below the various Governments with the number of Commissariats for each, as well as for ready reference - other data regarding each which are not found elsewhere in convenient form:

I. GOVERNMENT OF ERITREA.

Capital: Asmara.  
Governor: General Alfredo Guzzoni.  
Area: 221,000 square kilometers.  
Population: c. 1,000,000.  
Commissariats: 11.

II. GOVERNMENT OF AMHARA.

Capital: Gondar.  
Governor: General Alessandro Pirzio Biroli.  
Area: 223,000 square kilometers.  
Population: c. 2,000,000.  
Commissariats: 5.

III. GOVERNMENT OF GALLA-SIDAMO.

Capital: Jimma.  
Governor: General Carlo Geloso.  
Area: 353,000 square kilometers.  
Population: c. 1,600,000.  
Commissariats: 12.

IV. GOVERNMENT OF HARRAR.

Capital: Harrar.  
Governor: General Guglielmo Nasi.  
Area: 202,000 square kilometers.  
Population: c. 1,400,000.  
Commissariats: 7.

V. GOVERNMENT OF SOMALIA.

Capital: Mogadiscio.  
Governor: General Ruggiero Santini.  
Area: 702,000 square kilometers.  
Population: c. 1,300,000.  
Commissariats: 9.

In addition to the above there is the special administrative zone surrounding the city of Addis Ababa, a sort of "Federal District" for the capital of Italian

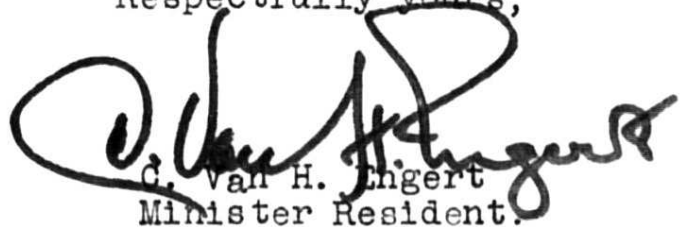
East



East Africa. This district comprises an area of 7000 square kilometers and has a population of about 200,000 souls. Its present Governor is Dr. Alfredo Siniscalchi, who is so far practically the only non-military man in high office (See Legation's despatch No. 156, July 8, 1936). The Addis Ababa area is not subdivided into Commissariats.

The total area of Italian East Africa is thus approximately 1,708,000 square kilometers (about 435,000 square miles) with a population of perhaps between 6,500,000 and 7,000,000 souls.

Respectfully yours,



G. Van H. Engert  
Minister Resident.

File No. 801

CVHE/rlh

Copy for Embassy, Rome.





EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ROME, February 18, 1937.

No. 222

Subject: Vatican Recognition of the Empire of Ethiopia.

RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1937 MAR 4 PM 2 19

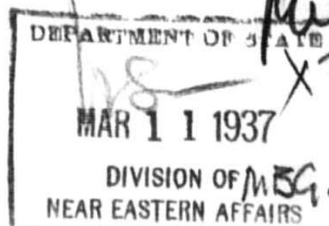
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS



Distribution Instructions

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,  
Washington.



Sir:

With reference to the Embassy's recent despatches and telegrams concerning the de facto recognition by other states of the Italian occupation of Ethiopia, I have the honor to inform the Department that in replying to the message from the King of Italy on the anniversary of the pontifical coronation, the Pope stated:

"To the devoted courteous message of felicitation of Your Majesty and of Her Majesty the Queen Empress, replies our warm gratitude and, with paternal wishes for happiness, the apostolic blessing."

Also the OSSERVATORE ROMANO, the official Vatican organ, in reporting demonstrations in honor of the birth of the Prince of Naples, speaks of "Their Majesties the King Emperor and the Queen Empress." Although there was no comment in the Italian press on either of these announcements, the..

865D.01/259

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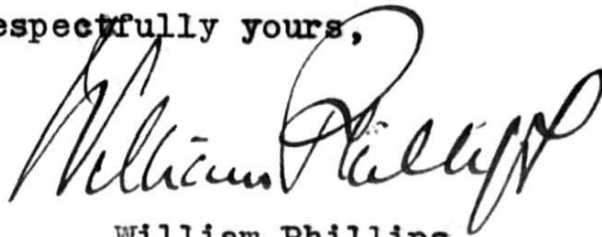


the TRIBUNA on February 15th quoted the remarks of the TEMPS correspondent, who considered them a carefully pondered expression of Vatican recognition of the Empire of Ethiopia.

CONFIDENTIAL

From Vatican circles it is learned that these were intended as the first manifestation of the de facto recognition accorded by the Holy See of Italian occupation of Ethiopia.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'William Phillips', written in a cursive style.

William Phillips.

SR/wrm

801.

4 copies - BK.



2/25  
2/26-  
2/26-4:

March 4 1937

No. 45

To the American Ambassador,  
Rome.

The Secretary of State transmits, as of possible interest to the Embassy, an informal memorandum prepared in the Division of Near Eastern Affairs, regarding the attitudes of various Governments toward Italian claims of sovereignty in Ethiopia.

365D.01/260

Enclosure:  
Memorandum dated February 16, 1937.

NE: MBG/CC

MBG.

*Handwritten:* NE, MBG, 2/27/37 am w, and various initials and signatures.

OR  
FEB 27 1937.

A true copy of the original  
*Handwritten:* M

PHa GH



DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

1937 MAR 4 PM 2 13

February 16, 1937.

ACTS OF VARIOUS FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS  
INDICATIVE OF THEIR ATTITUDES TOWARD  
ITALIAN CLAIMS TO SOVEREIGNTY IN ETHIOPIA.

In a note dated May 11, 1936, the Italian Ambassador at Washington brought to the attention of the Secretary of State the decree of May 9th by which Italy asserted its sovereignty in Ethiopia (765.84/4396). The Secretary refrained from making formal reply, and the United States Government has taken no action implying recognition of Italy's claims. But other Governments received at the same time similar notifications, and in the nine months which have elapsed many of them have signified by positive acts their assent, either express or implied, to a change in the international status of Ethiopia.

Each of these Governments has moved in the direction of recognition by one or more of the following four procedures.\*

- (1) By announcing a decision to withdraw its diplomatic establishment

\*Footnote: The "announced" dates given below should be taken to mean the dates of public announcement either by Italy or by the other country concerned. "Reported" dates mean the dates of communications in which the information was first received by the Department.

365D.01/260

GI



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

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establishment at Addis Ababa: The German Government was the first to take this step, as given out at Rome on July 25, 1936. It was followed by Japan (announced December 2, 1936), Great Britain and France (announced December 22, 1936), Belgium (announced December 24, 1936), Turkey (announced January 18, 1937). Of the seven Legations at Addis Ababa before the Italian occupation, only that of the United States now remains.

(2) By announcing its decision to establish for the first time a consulate at Addis Ababa and applying to the Italian Government for exequaturs: The five Governments who have adopted this procedure, and who were not previously represented at Addis Ababa, are Greece (announced December 15, 1936), Bulgaria (announced December 21, 1936), Rumania (announced December 31, 1936), Austria (announced January 6, 1937), and Czechoslovakia (announced January 8, 1937).

(3) By assenting to the use of the title "Emperor" in formal addresses to or from the King of Italy: The imperial style assumed by the King of Italy has been acknowledged and confirmed by six Governments when receiving or giving letters of credence; these are the Government of Austria (reported June 26, 1936), of Poland (announced July 25, 1936), of Yugoslavia (announced November 10, 1936), of Albania (reported November 17, 1936), of Chile (November 30, 1936, when the  
Chilean



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Chilean Ambassador to Rome presented his credentials), and of the Dominican Republic (reported January 13, 1937).

(4) By formal recognition of Italian sovereignty de jure. Only two Governments are reported to have made explicit statements of recognition: the German (announced October 24, 1936), and the Swiss (announced December 24, 1936).

The above classification is based on the form rather than on the effect of the action taken by the various Governments. It is not always evident, from the information received by the Department, what interpretation these Governments have put upon their own acts. Governments which have made formal statements recognizing full Italian sovereignty de jure in Ethiopia have, of course, defined precisely their positions. Others, like the British, have made statements explicitly limiting their recognition to sovereignty de facto. On the other hand a few Governments, and especially those which have declared their intention of establishing for the first time consulates at Addis Ababa, have left their acts unexplained.

There is summarized below, however, the information contained in the Department's files regarding the action taken by seventeen Governments. And there is also appended a table giving a synopsis of that information.

Albania:

The American Chargé at Tirana reported in a despatch



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of November 17, 1936, that the Prime Minister had informed him that Albania had recently officially recognized King Victor Emmanuel as Emperor of Ethiopia when the new Albanian Minister to Rome presented his letters of credence addressed to the King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia. (865 D.01/212).

Austria:

The Embassy at Vienna reported in a despatch of June 26, 1936, that it had been announced in the press that the newly appointed Austrian Minister to Rome had presented letters of credence to the King of Italy, addressing that sovereign as King and Emperor. (863.00/1293). And on January 6, 1937, it was stated in the official gazette that the Austrian Government intended to establish in the near future a consular post at Addis Ababa (863.00 PR/144).

Belgium:

On December 24, 1936, it was officially announced in Rome that the Belgian Chargé had communicated to the Italian Government his Government's decision to replace the Belgian Legation at Addis Ababa with a Consulate General. (865D.01/231). And on January 21, 1937, the American Minister Resident at Addis Ababa was informed by the Belgian Chargé that the Belgian Legation had been reduced to a consulate general (701.5584/9).



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Bulgaria:

On December 21, 1936, at Rome, an official communiqué announced that the Bulgarian Minister had informed the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs of the intention of his Government to establish a consulate at Addis Ababa, and requested Italian authorization. The Bulgarian Government had not been previously represented in Ethiopia. 702.7465D/1. 701.4184/59.

Chile:

On November 30, 1936, the new Chilean Ambassador to Rome was accredited to the "King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia." The American Embassy at Santiago, in a despatch dated December 2, 1936, reported that the Government of Chile had been dismayed by the unfavorable reaction in other countries, and that after some shuffling the Chilean Foreign Office had issued a communiqué (December 2) explaining that it had acted on the assumption that the new title had been legally conferred by the competent Italian authorities, and that its action was not a recognition of Italian sovereignty in Ethiopia, but was a simple matter of protocol (865D.01/220).

In a later despatch of December 4, the Embassy reported that Mr. Miller, of the United Press, had been privately informed by President Alessandri that in his opinion Chile had  
extended



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extended de jure recognition to the "Italian conquest of Ethiopia." (865D.01/223)

Czechoslovakia:

The Minister Resident at Addis Ababa reported in a telegram of January 8, 1937, that according to Italian radio news Czechoslovakia was about to open a consulate at Addis Ababa, where it had not been previously represented. (702.60F65D/1).

Dominican Republic:

The Chargé at Ciudad Trujillo reported in a despatch of January 13, 1937, that according to the titular Italian consul (Barletta) the Dominican Minister for Foreign Affairs had stated in conversation on January 12 that the new Dominican Minister to Italy would be accredited to the King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia. The Minister for Foreign Affairs had declined, however, to make a public announcement recognizing the Italian annexation of Ethiopia. (865D.01/241).

France:

On December 22, 1936, at Rome an official communiqué announced that the French Chargé had informed the Italian Foreign Office that his Government had decided to withdraw its Legation at Addis Ababa and to replace it with a Consulate General. (701.4184/57)



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Germany:

On July 25, 1936, at Rome an official communiqué announced that the German Ambassador had communicated to Count Ciano the decision of the German Reich to withdraw its Legation at Addis Ababa, and to replace it with a Consulate General. (865D.01/160)

The American Ambassador at Berlin reported in a telegram of August 5, 1936, that the Foreign Office had stated that the change from a Legation to a Consulate General constituted de facto recognition of Italian sovereignty, and that the German Government was quite prepared to recognize the situation de jure, and had so intimated to the Italian Government (865D.01/156).

On October 24, 1936, it was announced at Rome that Chancellor Hitler had received Count Ciano and had informed him that Germany had proceeded to formal recognition of the Italian Empire in Ethiopia. (762.65/233).

Great Britain:

On December 22, 1936, at Rome, an official communiqué announced that the British Ambassador and the French Chargé had officially informed the Italian Foreign Office that their Governments had decided to withdraw their Legations at Addis Ababa, and to replace them by Consulates General (701.4184/57).

The



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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The American Embassy at Rome had already reported in a telegram of December 19, that it had been informed by the British Embassy that a communication in the above sense would be made to the Italian Government on December 21. The British Embassy added that the question of exequaturs would not be raised, but that the British Government was prepared to request them on an understanding that they did not constitute de jure recognition. (701.4184/56).

On December 23, 1936, the British Embassy at Washington addressed an Aide Mémoire to the Department, stating that when, on December 21, the British Ambassador <sup>at Rome</sup> had communicated his Government's decision to Count Ciano, he had asked and received assurances that British consular officers in Ethiopia would be accorded all customary privileges, including free communication with the home Government and with each other, and the use of their wireless for reception.

The British Ambassador at Rome had also explained that His Majesty's Government proceeded on the assumption that exequaturs would be necessary and desirable, and that they would apply for exequaturs on the understanding that such action would not be interpreted as de jure recognition, Count Ciano had assented.

The Aide Mémoire states further that the British Government was influenced by (a) the precedent of the action of

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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neutral consuls in Belgium during the German occupation, who were granted exequaturs but presumably without committing them to more than de facto recognition of German control; and by (b) Italian assurances last July that reduction of the British Legation would not be regarded as recognition. The British Government also relied on the recent action of Japan and Greece in establishing Consulates General at Addis Ababa, implying only de facto recognition.

The Aide Mémoire adds that His Majesty's Government realize that their action involves de facto recognition, but that it is "no more than the recognition of facts which indisputably exist"; that they appreciate, however, that in practice the distinction between such recognition and de jure recognition is small, "though for political reasons it may still be desirable to retain it." (701.4184/61)

On January 15, 1937, the British Chargé left Addis Ababa. (701.4184/62).

On January 27, 1937, the Italian press announced an Italian-British accord, by an exchange of notes between the two Colonial Offices, providing for (a) reciprocal grazing rights for the tribes settled along the Somali-Ethiopian frontier, and also for (b) freedom of transit for Italian merchandise through the British ports of Zeila and Berbera.

It



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It was explained, however, to the American Embassy at Rome (by the British Embassy?) that the agreement had no bearing upon recognition of sovereignty. (741.65/323).

Greece:

On December 15, 1936, it was officially announced in Rome that the Greek Minister had notified the Italian Foreign Office of his Government's decision to establish a Consulate General at Addis Ababa, and had asked for an exequatur.

According to the Greek Legation, this action constituted only de facto recognition, the Greek Government not being prepared as yet to accord de jure recognition. The Greek Legation at Cairo and an honorary consul at Addis Ababa have heretofore looked after Greek interests in Ethiopia. (702.6865D/2).

Japan:

In a telegram of November 18, 1936, the Ambassador at Rome reported that the Japanese Ambassador had told him that the Japanese Government would send a consular officer to Addis Ababa very soon, and admitted that this would constitute de facto recognition of Italian sovereignty. (865D.01/205).

On December 2, 1936, it was officially announced at Rome

that



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that the Japanese Ambassador had informed Count Ciano of his Government's decision to transform its Legation at Addis Ababa into a Consulate General, and had applied for exequaturs. (865D.01/213). The Japanese Legation was closed as of December 3.

In the Aide Mémoire of December 23, 1936, from the British Embassy in Washington to the Department is the statement that His Majesty's Government's latest information indicates, notwithstanding Italian press comment to the contrary, that this (Japanese action) is not held by the Japanese to imply de jure recognition of the new Empire on the part of Japan. (701.4184/61).

Poland:

On July 14, 1936, the President of the Senate in Danzig (whose foreign relations are entrusted to Poland) received the new Italian Consul General as the "Consul General of the Kingdom of Italy and of the Abyssinian Empire" (702.6560K/1). And in a despatch of July 29, 1936, the American Chargé at Berlin reported that on July 25 the press announced that Poland had already accepted an Italian letter of credence which employed the style, King and Emperor. (701.6284/26). On January 11, 1937, it was officially announced in Rome that the Polish Ambassador had informed Count Ciano that the Polish consulate in Rome was authorized

to



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

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to consider Ethiopia as falling within its jurisdiction.  
(702.60C65D/1).

Rumania:

On December 31, 1936, it was announced in the press at Bucharest that on December 25 the Italian Minister had been informed of the decision of the Rumanian Government to establish a Consulate at Addis Ababa. Rumania had not previously maintained diplomatic or consular establishments in Ethiopia. (702.7165D/2).

Switzerland:

On December 24, 1936, it was officially announced in Rome that the Swiss Minister had informed the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs that his Government recognized de jure the sovereignty of Italy in Ethiopia, and had extended the consular district of its Legation at Rome to include Ethiopia. (865D.01/231).

Turkey:

On August 14, 1936, the Turkish Chargé left Addis Ababa, after he had given out that the Legation would be temporarily closed. He informed the Italian authorities that he was merely going on leave, but his diplomatic passport was nevertheless endorsed by the Italians with the words

"Definite



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"Definite departure." (701.6784/6 and/7).

The Secretary of the Turkish Embassy at Washington, in ~~con~~versation with an officer of this Division, on August 17, stated that he was not informed of the reasons for the departure of the Turkish Chargé from Addis Ababa, but that he would not be surprised if the closing of the Legation were in return for assurances that Italy would later adhere to the Straits Convention signed at Montreux. (701.6784/7).

At Istanbul the Embassy was informed (August 22) by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs that the Turkish Chargé at Addis Ababa had been given leave on account of ill health, and unfortunately could not be replaced. The Embassy received the impression that no serious efforts would be made to replace him. (701.6784/8).

On January 18, 1937, it was officially announced in Rome that the Turkish Government had made known its decision to withdraw its Legation at Addis Ababa and to request the Italian Government to continue the protection of Turkish nationals in Ethiopia (701.6784/10).

Yugoslavia:

The Ambassador at Rome reported in a telegram of November 10, 1936, that the press of that date gave prominence  
to



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

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to a Reuter's despatch from Belgrade stating that Yugoslavia would recognize the Italian conquest of Ethiopia by accrediting the new Yugoslav Minister to Italy to the King and Emperor. (763.65/192).

NE: MBG/GC



Decision to withdraw Legation at Addis Ababa.

Decision to establish Consulate for first time at Addis Ababa.

Use of title "Emperor" in formal address to King of Italy.

Formal recognition of Italian sovereignty de jure.

Albania			Reported Nov. 17, 1936	
Austria		Announced Jan. 6, 1937.	Reported June 26, 1936	
Belgium	Announced Dec. 24, 1936.			
Bulgaria		Announced Dec. 21, 1936		
Chile			Nov. 30, 1936	
Czechoslovakia		Announced Jan. 8, 1937		
Dominican Republic			Reported Jan. 13, 1937*	
France	Announced Dec. 22, 1936.			
Germany	Announced July 25, 1936.			Announced Oct. 24, 1936
Great Britain	Announced Dec. 22, 1936			
Greece		Announced Dec. 15, 1936.		
Japan	Announced Dec. 2, 1936.			
Poland			Announced July 25, 1936.	
Rumania		Announced Dec. 25(31) 1936.		
Switzerland				Announced Dec. 24, 1936
Turkey	Announced Jan. 18, 1937			
Yugoslavia			Announced Nov. 10, 1936.	

\* The Government of the Dominican Republic is reported only to have intimated its intention to accredit a Minister to the King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia.



# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 701.6516/8 FOR #962

FROM El Salvador ( Corrigan ) DATED Feb. 27, 1937  
TO NAME 1-1127

REGARDING:

New Italian Minister Enrico Bombieri is accredited to El Salvador as representative of the King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia, and has been accepted in this capacity.

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865D.01  
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**No. 962**

**San Salvador, February 27, 1937**

**SUBJECT: Italian Minister Presents Credentials**

**The Honorable**

**The Secretary of State,**

**Washington.**

**Sir:**

I have the honor to refer to the Legation's despatch No. 587 of February 14, 1936, regarding the presentation of his credentials as Italian Chargé d'Affaires by Signor Paolo Cortese. Signor Cortese, who maintained his residence in Guatemala, has now been replaced by a Minister, Comendatore Enrico Bombieri, who arrived from Guatemala to present his credentials in El Salvador on February 19, 1937.

The Minister presented his credentials to President Martínez on February 24. He is accredited as Envoy

**Extraordinary**



Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia, and has been recognized as such by an Executive Order dated February 24 and published in the DIARIO OFICIAL of the same date.

1/2/ A copy and translation of the Order are enclosed.

The Minister left today for Tegucigalpa, where he will present his credentials as Minister to Honduras. He will return to Guatemala to reside, and during his absence from this capital Italian interests will continue to be represented by Señor Manfredo Pincherli, who holds the title of Chargé des Affaires.

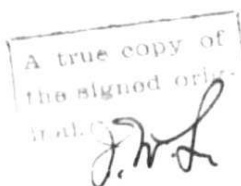
Respectfully yours,

Frank P. Corrigan

Enclosures:

1. Copy of Order
2. Translation

701



DGF/jwl



**MAXIMILIANO HERNANDEZ MARTINEZ**  
**Presidente Constitucional de la República de El Salvador**

**POR CUANTO:**

**Su Excelencia el Señor Comendador Don Enrico Bombieri, ha presentado las Letras que lo acreditan en el elevado carácter de Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario de Su Majestad el Rey de Italia y Emperador de Etiopía ante el Gobierno de El Salvador,**

**POR TANTO,**

**DECRETA:**

**Art. 1--Se reconoce a Su Excelencia el Señor Comendador Don Enrico Bombieri, en el carácter diplomático de que se ha hecho mérito.**

**Art. 2--Las autoridades de la República guardarán y harán que se guarden a Su Excelencia el Señor Comendador Don Enrico Bombieri, los honores, consideraciones y preeminencias inherentes al elevado cargo de que está investido.**

**Palacio Nacional: San Salvador (Cuscatlán),  
veinticuatro de febrero de mil novecientos treinta y siete.**

**MAXIMILIANO H. MARTINEZ**

**El Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores,**

**MIGUEL ANGEL ARAUJO**



TRANSLATION

MAXIMILIANO HERNANDEZ MARTINEZ  
Constitutional President of the Republic of El Salvador

WHEREAS:

His Excellency Señor Comendador Don Enrico Bombieri, has presented his Letters accrediting him in his high position of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia near the Government of El Salvador,

THEREFORE,

DECREES:

Article 1. His Excellency Señor Comendador Don Enrico Bombieri is recognized in the diplomatic character mentioned.

Article 2. The authorities of the Republic will show, and see to it that there are shown, to His Excellency Señor Comendador Don Enrico Bombieri the honors, considerations and privileges belonging to the high position with which he is entrusted.

National Palace: San Salvador (Cuscatlán), the twenty-fourth of February nineteen hundred and thirty-seven.

MAXIMILIANO H. MARTINEZ

Minister for Foreign Affairs

MIGUEL ANGEL ARAUJO





EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

5122

ROME, February 24, 1937.

No. 233

Subject: Italian Administration and Development  
Ethiopia.

LEGAL ADVISER

MAR 19 1937

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF ECONOMIC ADVISER

MAR 18 1937

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF WESTERN  
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

MAR 10 1937

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

Exempts as indicated  
AW

MAR 15 1937

The Honorable HISTORICAL ADVISER

The Secretary of State,  
MAR 27 1937  
Washington.

DEPT. OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MAR 17 1937

DIVISION OF  
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

Sir:

DIVISION OF  
TRADE AGREEMENTS

MAR 11 1937

RECEIVED  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

In continuation of my despatch No. 155 of January  
13, 1937, regarding the Italian administration and develop-  
ment of Ethiopia, I have the honor to submit below a digest  
of information published here since January 13th with re-  
gard to Italian action and plans for the government and  
exploitation of the conquered territory.

Military and Political.

An official communiqué under Irgalem date line of  
January 18th stated that "police operations" were being  
continued in the territory of Galla Sidamo by several  
Italian columns which were driving "bandits" into the moun-  
tainous regions. It is added that acts of submission to  
Italy were being made daily. On January 23rd the following  
official..

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MAR 30 1937

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official communiqué was published in the press:

"The police operations planned and personally directed by the Viceroy, Marshal Graziani, for the elimination of the remaining groups of rebels headed by Ras Destà and Deggiac Gabré Mariam in the Region of the Lakes, have been entirely successful. Our columns with strong help from the aviation, rapidly attained all their objectives, capturing up to now 1,500 rifles, 15 machine guns, one cannon, a large amount of munitions, and many thousand head of cattle. The local population is helping to find and destroy the remaining groups of fleeing Abyssinians." The press added that five important "fitaurari", Tesemma, Worchene, Garramu, Makonnen, and Bogale, were captured. Fifty Italian airplanes were reported to have taken part in the operations. No further military news was published in the press until February 22nd when a communiqué announced that "In the fighting which took place on the twentieth instant by troops of the Natale and Rucci columns in the Region of the Lakes, the Deggiac Beiene Merid and the other chiefs captured in the fighting in question were immediately shot."

An official communiqué published on February 7th announced that on the preceding day the Duce received Ras Seyum, Ras Getaccio, Ras Kebbede, and Deggiac Mulughieta in the Palazzo Venezia, Rome. It added that Ras Seyum read the following statement on behalf of his colleagues:

"Our emotion and joy at finding ourselves in your presence are extremely great. We anxiously desired this great honor, and we are deeply grateful that you have granted it; in the same way we are most grateful at the invitation to come to admire and know even better this great and powerful..



of Italy, which has also become ours, since God has willed that, through the incontestable right of your victory, Italy be entrusted with the work of elevating to a higher scale of civilization and progress our Ethiopian people.

"Ethiopia is now completely Italian, not only through the territorial conquest of the country, but also and even more through the spiritual conquest of the population which the balanced wisdom and generous goodness of Your Excellency and all your subordinates have in so short a time achieved.

"We are therefore pleased today, Duce, to be able to repeat to you personally the oath of unswerving loyalty which we **have** already solemnly taken before your wise and generous Minister, H. E. Lessona, and the illustrious and indefatigable Viceroy, Marshal Graziani.

"Duce, you must believe in the sincerity of our sentiments of fidelity and submission, and you can count upon our deep devotion in all circumstances.

"Long live our King Emperor!

"Long live the Duce!"

The Duce, in the words of the official communiqué, "replied by taking note of the sentiments expressed and the intentions manifested and firmly declared that the peoples of Ethiopia will be governed, in accordance with the laws of Rome, with strength, justice, and humanity and will through the action of fascism be raised to higher standards of living."

The above-mentioned Ethiopians, who had been in Italy since November 22, 1936, sailed for Massaua in the SS "Adria" on February 15th.

The press under Addis Ababa date line reported that the Viceroy on February 18th received 34 former Abyssinian government officials who swore allegiance to Italy. Among them were  
the..



the ex-Governor of Uollamo, the ex-Minister of Finance and Public Works, the ex-Governor of Gimma, the ex-Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, the two sons of Dr. Martin (the former Minister to London), and the ex-Chief of Protocol. The Viceroy took the occasion to inform the assembled Ethiopians that he had just returned from a 3,000 kilometer trip by automobile, accompanied by only fifty men, through Sidamo, Giam Giam, Borana, Digodia, Somalia, Ogadan, and Harrar. "This demonstrates", he went on to say, "that everywhere there was absolute quiet, that everywhere the population is in favor of Italy. Today a new epoch has begun for Ethiopia in the shade of the glorious flag of Fascist Italy. It is an epoch of justice, of labor, of progress, of truth, of honor. In the new Ethiopia all peoples are equal and all religions are free. Throughout the whole Empire, the sole authority is represented by the officials of the government and if these officials have need of making use of native notables, they will be chosen exclusively from the notables of the race which inhabits the zone. Galla chieftains in the Galla territory, Sidamo chieftains in the country of the Sidamos, Giam Giam chieftains in their territory, and so forth. Amharic notables have their duties in the territory of Amhara, where they will always enjoy the protection of the Government as long as their fidelity merits such protection. This is the will of the Government; this is the right road you notables should follow. I hope that my words do not fall on deaf ears. Believe in the Government and obey the Government. This is the formula everyone of you should adopt. Only in this way can you, as notables, take part in the work of civilization, of peace, and of progress, which Fascist Italy is accomplishing in

Ethiopia



Ethiopia. In the hope that my words may be as good seed in your minds, raise high your arms towards the sun and the sky and salute with me the shining Majesty of the King Emperor Victor Emmanuel III, your and our Sovereign, and the grand figure of the Duce del Fascismo and Constructor of Italy, Benito Mussolini. Salute the King Emperor! Salute the Duce!"

On February 20th the following official communiqué was published in the Italian press:

"Yesterday about noon after the distribution of gifts to the churches, mosques, and poor of Addis Ababa had been made by His Excellency Graziani in celebration of the birth of H. R. H. the Prince of Naples, in the presence of the civil and military authorities and the notables representing the Coptic and Moslem religious communities, a group of individuals infiltrated among the poor and profited by the movement of the crowd at the end of the ceremony, to throw several hand bombs. Marshal Graziani was slightly wounded and General Liotta and Abuna Cirillo and several natives were rather seriously wounded."

The GIORNALE D'ITALIA of February 20th asserts that "the attempt against the Viceroy of Ethiopia was unquestionably an isolated phenomenon of a criminal and fanatical nature which can have no aspect of a political manifestation. It belongs to a series of crimes or common delinquencies and will be treated as such." Noting that all rebel elements have long since been eliminated from Addis Ababa, the editorial says that "this criminal episode, which in any case has had precedents by no means rare in European cities, can in no way be a sign of Abyssinian revolt, which does not exist."

On February 22nd the following official communiqué

was..



was published:

"The condition of the Viceroy, Marshal Graziani, is more and more satisfactory. That of General Liotta has improved.

"Immediately after the attempt, the police made two thousand arrests, while the Military Public Prosecutor is carrying on hearings with a view to identifying the culprits, who, in conformity with instructions from Rome, will be prosecuted without delay.

"Squads of Fascists have cleaned up certain suspected quarters of the capital. The mass of the population is quiet. There are 30,000 Italian soldiers quartered in Addis Ababa."

An official communiqué published on February 23rd announced that "of the two thousand natives, out of a population of more than 90,000 natives, arrested after the attempt of the nineteenth instant, several hundred, who have been able to prove their innocence, have been liberated. All those found with arms on their persons or in their huts have been shot. The rest are being questioned." (Embassy's telegram No. 70 of February 24).

In military circles it is said that the "instructions from Rome" were received with thankfulness by the officers in Ethiopia, who have never approved of the humanitarian orders hitherto issued from Rome and who hope that Marshal Graziani will finally be given a free hand to treat the natives with more severity.

#### Organization of Italian East Africa.

With reference to the political and administrative divisions of Italian East Africa (Embassy's despatch No. 47 of October 22, 1936), the press announces that the six governments have been definitely constituted as follows:

Eritrea..

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Eritrea: 11 commissariats with headquarters at Asmara, Massaua, Adi Ugri, Adi Caieh, Agordat, Cheren, Assab, Adua, Adigrat, Abbi Addi, Macalle.

Amara: 5 commissariats with headquarters at Gondar, Debra Taabor, Debarec, Dessie, Debra Marcos.

Harrar: 7 commissariats with headquarters at Harrar, Giggiga, Dire Dawa, Asba Littorio, Tiggio, Goba, Ghigner.

Galla and Sidamo: 12 commissariats with headquarters at Gimma, Javello, Irgalem, Gardulla, Soddo, Anderaccia, Magi, Baco, Gore, Lechemti, Saio, Silti.

Somalia: 9 commissariats with headquarters at Modagiscio, Chisimaio, Baidoa, Merca, Bulo Burti, Rocca Littorio, Gardo, Dolo, Gebra-darre.

Addis Ababa: not divided into commissariats.

The governors of the foregoing governments will subdivide their commissariats into Residencies and Vice-Residencies.

Italian Colonial Technical Service.

By Royal Decree-law No. 2374 of December 14, 1936, published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE of February 8, 1937, the following technical corps were created for service in Italian East Africa and Libya:

(1) Colonial Police Corps with a Commanding General and 141 other officers;

(2) Colonial Sanitary Corps with an Inspector General of Health, 182 medical officers, a Veterinary Inspector General, 49 veterinaries, 2 Chemical Inspectors, and 14 chemists;

(3) Colonial Civil Engineer Corps with 2 Inspectors General, 93 civil engineers, and 80 surveyors.

(4) Colonial Mining Corps with an Inspector General;



27 mining engineers, and 31 miners;

(5) Colonial Agrarian Corps with a Superior Director, an Agrarian Inspector General, 20 Directors and Vice-Directors, 61 Inspectors, 15 experimentalists, and 120 agrarian experts.

(6) Corps of Colonial Interpreters with 71 Interpreters and translators;

(7) Colonial Postaltelegraphic Corps with an Inspector General and 444 officials.

### Finance.

In addition to the consultative councils for Italian East Africa established on September 25, 1936 (Embassy's despatch No. 18 of September 30, 1936), the Council of Ministers at its meeting on February 10th approved a Royal Decree to create a consultative commission on credit and insurance.

The press reports that at the meeting of the Ministerial Committee for the Protection of Savings and Credit Operations on February 16th the principle was affirmed that credit transactions in Italian East Africa should be handled by the Bank of Italy and those other banks so authorized. The Italian East African branches of the Bank of Italy were declared competent to handle not only the ordinary credit and banking operations now carried on by them, but also average and long-term loans for agricultural, industrial, and mining developments, average-term loans for agricultural improvement (delegated by the Istituto Mobiliare Italiano and the Consortium for Loans on Industrial Property); and long-term building, agricultural, and land-improvement loans, delegated by the Land Credit Institute for East Africa, the organization of which was approved..

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approved. The Committee decided, however, not to permit the creation of new branch banks until June 30, 1938.

Bank of Ethiopia.

884,516

The press reports that a hearing was held by the High Court at London on February 4th of the suit of the Bank of Italy, acting on behalf of the Bank of Ethiopia (which, by a decree of the Viceroy was placed in liquidation), to obtain from the National Bank of Egypt restitution of money and securities held by the Bank of Egypt for the Bank of Ethiopia. The attorney of the Bank of Egypt, it is stated, admitted that the bank had deposits of funds and securities of the Bank of Ethiopia but said it refused to return them as it did not recognize the legitimacy of the liquidation of the Bank of Ethiopia. He added that "the occupation of Abyssinia by the Italians is said to have been a conquest, but it has not been recognized either by the League of Nations or the British Government. As long as this situation continues, the so-called orders of the Italian Government or of the King of Italy must not be recognized by Great Britain." Italian interests are represented by Vladimiro Liguori, Director of the Addis Ababa branch of the Bank of Italy and liquidator of the Bank of Ethiopia. The suit has been suspended for three weeks pending the arrival of documents requested by Signor Liguori. (Embassy's despatch No. 72 of November 12, 1936).

Commence and Termination

Labor.

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The following official communiqué under Addis Ababa date line was published in the press on February 18th:

"As regards the definitive organization of the workers of the Empire, the Inspector of Labor communicates that all workers will be organized in units of the Militia. Each

'Government'

Labor



'Government' will have a legion commanded by a consul (colonel). At the Government General there will be established a headquarters for the group of legions of workers in Italian East Africa, under the command of a Consul General. As regards the military, the commander will be under the troop headquarters of the Government General. The legions are now being organized."

*Latin*

Colonization.

The first announcement of the departure of women for Ethiopia was made in the press on February 22nd when it was reported that 1,400 women had sailed from Genoa for Massaua in the SS "Colombo" to join their husbands, some of whom had been married by proxy.

Industrial and Economic Development.

By Royal Decree-law No. 2331, published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE of January 30, 1937, a Government organization entitled "The East Africa Mining Administration" ("A.M.A.O.") was established, under the control of the Ministry of Colonies, for the purpose of prospecting and mining mineral ores in Italian East Africa. Its headquarters will be located in Addis Ababa and it is authorized to establish branches in each Government. (See enclosed Report No. 15,763 of February 5, 1937 by the Military Attaché).

On January 19th the press announced that an Italo-German mining company had been formed with an original capital of fifty million lire, which may later be increased to two hundred millions. The German share consists of 49% of the stock and the Italian, 51 %. While Italy has the right to purchase the German holdings after five years, German industry will retain an option for 25% of the company's..

*Treasury*

*Commerce and*

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pany's production under preferential terms. The company will prospect principally for coal, iron, copper, and lead, in the Uollega region and to the east and west of Harrar. (See enclosed Report No. 15,760 of January 26, 1937, by the Military Attaché).

On February 24th the press reported that a prospecting mission financed by the new Italo-German "East Africa Mining Company" had sailed from Naples for Massaua in the SS "Colombo." The mission, which is headed by Senator Cattaneo, consists of eleven German and four Italian mining experts.

Among other missions which recently sailed for Ethiopia were the following:

825461  
Experts of the recently formed Textile Fibre Company of Ethiopia, to investigate the possibilities of cultivating fibrous plants suitable for use by the Italian textile industry;

Two experts of the National Rice Organization, together with an official of the Ministry of Colonies, to determine the localities most suitable for the cultivation of rice for native needs;

Experts of the Italian Company for Studying and Breeding Animals in the Colonies, to ascertain the localities best suited for raising sheep in Italian East Africa;

Experts of the Ethiopian Milk Company to study the possibilities of establishing and developing the milk products industry;

Experts of the Ethiopian Meat Company, to investigate the cattle resources of Ethiopia.

The following list of important companies, which have up to now been established to do business in Italian East Africa, was published in the press on February 20th:

Company..

Treasurer  
Comm.



Company for Ethiopian Cotton, capital of 2 million lire, headquarters at Addis Ababa;

Vegetable Textile Fibre Company of Ethiopia, capital of 1 million lire, headquarters at Milan;

Company for Oil-bearing Seeds and Fruits, capital of 500,000 lire, headquarters at Milan;

Ethiopian Company for the Milk and Milk Products Industry, capital of 500,000 lire, headquarters at Rome.

Company for Processing Meats, capital of 1 million lire, headquarters at Rome;

Cement Company of Ethiopia, capital of 10 million lire, headquarters at Bergamo;

Italian Company for the Study and Breeding of Animals in the Colonies, capital of 1 million lire, headquarters at Milan;

Tanning Company of Ethiopia, capital of 1 million lire, headquarters at Milan;

Company for the Brick Industry in Ethiopia, capital of 3 million lire, headquarters in Milan;

Ethiopian Company of Mining Engineers and Industrialists, capital of 20 million lire, headquarters in Milan;

National Company of Electric Concerns of Ethiopia, capital of 2 millions, headquarters in Milan;

Ethiopian Explosives Company, capital of 1 million lire, headquarters at Milan.

A syndicate of Italian chocolate manufacturers has submitted a project for cocoa growing in Ethiopia to the Ministry of Colonies. The districts west of the Lakes, the Kaffa region, and part of the plateau sloping down towards the Sudan are considered climatically best suited for cocoa culture. Sponsors of the project call attention to the successful cultivation of cocoa on the Gold

Coast..



Coast by the British and stress the importance of the Italian chocolate industry becoming independent of foreign raw materials as soon as possible.

A communiqué dated January 22 states that the Minister of Colonies has given instructions that 50,000 quintals of the best Ethiopian coffee be imported into Italy during the year 1937.

#### Communications.

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The press reports that the highway between Asmara and Addis Ababa will be completed before the next rainy season. 21,800 Italians and 8,450 natives are said to be engaged in its construction.

The MESSAGGERO of February 22nd states that, as a result of measures adopted by Italy, in accord with France, the congestion of goods for Ethiopia lying at Djibouti (Embassy's despatch No. 105 of December 2, 1936) is being rapidly relieved. It adds that the 32,000 tons of merchandise in the port on February 18th were reduced to 25,000 in only three days. It states that transportation will be hastened as follows:

1. Forwarding part of such merchandise intended for Upper Ugaden and Harrar, through Zeila and Berbera;
2. Transporting goods by truck on the road which runs alongside the Djibouti-Addis Ababa Railway.

#### Italo-British Agreements relating to East Africa.

741.65  
As reported in my telegram No. 35 of January 28th, the press on January 27th announced that two Italo-British agreements had been reached by an exchange of notes between representatives of the two colonial ministries. The first grants certain pasturing rights and protection to British Somali tribes, and the second provides freedom of transit through...



through Zeila and Berbera for merchandise destined for Ethiopia. (See enclosed report dated February 5, 1937, by Military Attaché).

In connection with the second agreement, the Azione Coloniale points out that Italian goods in transit through those ports will pay only a statistics tax amounting to 1%. It remarks that Italian goods through Djibouti "likewise pay, according to the French authorities, only a statistics tax; but that tax is calculated at 7%! One percent versus seven percent: mathematics is once more an opinion. And this, too, is naturally an excellent standard of comparison, to the entire advantage of Zeila and Berbera as against Djibouti." The newspaper asserts that the French authorities have made all sorts of difficulties with regard to laissez-passers, passports, and other formalities for Italian citizens, whereas the British have taken a different attitude. Under the agreement, the Italian Consul at Aden will notify the authorities at Zeila or Berbera that a certain vessel will arrive at one of these ports on a given day and land a specified number of passengers and goods. While Djibouti is equipped to handle only 180-190 tons daily, Berbera can put through 300-400 tons daily and Zeila a little less. It is added that the capacity of the two British ports will soon be greatly expanded.

The GAZZETTA DEL POPOLO of February 5th states that "The Italian and British Governments are studying the possibility of forming an automobile transport consortium, financed by Italian and British capital for the operation of automobile lines between the ports of Berbera and Zeila and the Harrar territories. The negotiations are under way and a successful conclusion thereof may be considered fairly imminent."

Recognition...



Recognition of Italian Sovereignty over Ethiopia.

145.67

As will be recalled, the Turkish Government last August gave leave of absence to its Chargé d'Affaires at Addis Ababa and at the same time requested the Italian Government to assume the protection of Turkish citizens in Ethiopia (Embassy's despatch No. 1839 of August 19, 1936). An official communiqué published on January 18th announced that "The Turkish Ambassador yesterday officially communicated to the Minister for Foreign Affairs that the Turkish Government, while reserving the right to create a Consulate at Addis Ababa, if necessary; had decided to abolish its Legation in that city and to request the Italian Government to continue to ensure the protection of Turkish subjects in Ethiopia" (Embassy's telegram No. 31 of January 22, 1937). On February 21st a press despatch reported that the Turkish Government has decided to extend the consular jurisdiction of its consulate at Bari over Ethiopia until a Turkish Consulate General is established at Addis Ababa.

A Stefani news despatch under Belgrade dateline of February 5th reported that the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs, Rustu Aras, in an interview declared that the de facto recognition of Italian sovereignty over Ethiopia would soon be followed by de jure recognition.

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The Stefani Agency under a Prague dateline of January 23rd announced that the Czechoslovak Council of Ministers had decided to establish a consulate at Addis Ababa.

On February 7th it was reported in the press from Assuncion that Juan Valery, formerly Paraguayan Minister to Spain, has been appointed Minister to the Quirinal and will present his credentials to the "King of Italy, Emperor of Ethiopia."



758.65  
A news despatch under Stockholm date line of February 8th stated that the Swedish Government refused to make out the credentials of its new Minister to Italy, Wirsen, to the "King-Emperor", until such time as the League of Nations may settle the Ethiopian question, and will meanwhile leave its mission at Rome under a Chargé d'Affaires.

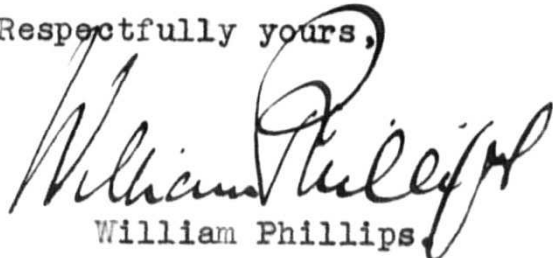
701.5165d  
The press, under Addis Ababa date line of February 11th, reported that the French Minister, M. Bodard, has been transferred to Teheran and the Counselor, Count du Gardiere, has been transferred to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It added that the French Legation would be changed to a Consulate General with a Consul General and two Consuls in the latter part of February.

According to a news despatch dated February 13 from Berlin, Dr. Lorenz, a Counselor of Legation, has been appointed German Consul General at Addis Ababa.

The press on February 21st reported that, by decree of the President of Peru, the Peruvian Consulate General at Genoa would have jurisdiction over Italian East Africa.

On February 22nd the press announced that the Government of Iran had given the consular section of its Legation at Rome jurisdiction over Italian East Africa.

Respectfully yours,

  
William Phillips

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Enclosures....



Enclosures:

1. New Italo German Mining Co. for E.Africa.
2. Constitution of E.Africa Mining Administration.
3. Lignite Coal in Abyssinia.
4. Bonus to Military Personnel.
5. Military Operations in Abyssinia.
6. British-Italian Accord for E.Africa.
7. Statistical Data on Population of Italian  
E.Africa and Libya.



DATED Feb. 24 FROM THE  
AMERICAN EMBASSY, ROME, ITALY.

ITALY (ECONOMIC)

Subject : MINING - General.New Italo-German Mining Company for East Africa.

On January 19, 1937 it was officially announced that a new Italo-German Mining Company (joint stock company) had been founded for mineral research in Ethiopia. The new mining company will have an original capital of fifty million lire which may be augmented to two hundred million, already guaranteed. The German holding consists of 49 of the shares and the Italian, 51. The company's central offices will be located in Milan; Senator Puricelli president.

Bernhard Berghaus of Berlin has furnished the German share of the capital. Twentieth-five percent of the total production of mines to be worked by the new company will be turned over to German industry at preference conditions. The Italians on the other hand have reserved for themselves the right to purchase the German share within 5 years. It is reported that Minister Ciano during his visit to Berlin and Berchtesgaden in November 1936 obtained German participation in the enterprise. A number of German mining engineers and experts have been engaged by the company.

The company will prospect principally for coal, iron, copper, and lead. Research will be carried out almost entirely in the UOLLEGA region and to the east and west of HARRAR. The company will send a research mission in these regions with all modern means for prospecting. The mission, which will leave for Africa in the early part of February, will be headed by Prof. Leo von der Muhlen of the Geological branch of the Superior Technical School of Berlin. The mission will be divided in four sections, an Italian technical expert will accompany each section. The mission will chart and study mineral deposits for future exploitation by the Company. In the UOLLEGA the Company will exploit magnetic iron deposits only, as the mining of gold and platinum in this region is reserved to other companies. The territory to be exploited will be divided into sections of about 20-25 square kilometers each to avoid competition and litigations between mining companies operating in Ethiopia.

The new Italo-German Mining Company, called the "East Africa Mining Company", is the fourth mining concern founded in Italian East Africa. The other three are: the "Platinifera Frasso Company", with Italian, British and French capital, mostly Italian; the "A.M.A.C. Company", an Italian gold mining and prospecting concern operating solely in Eritrea; and the "Ethiopian Mining Company", also recently founded.

"Le Temps", Paris, of January 22, 1937 commented on the new Italo-German mining enterprise as follows:

"The industrial and economic importance of the new Italo-German mining company in East Africa is evident. The political significance of the event is no less considerable.



In the first place, Italy gives an open preference to Germany as a foreign participant in the exploitation of Ethiopian mineral wealth, and repays very fully the Reich's stand during the Italo-Abyssinian war and the period of sanctions. It may be asked, nevertheless, whether the preference accorded Germany is such as to diminish the rights and interests acquired by England and France in Ethiopia. Will not the French interests around Djibouti and English interests in the Lake Tana region be damaged by a progressive Italo-German collaboration?

Another side of the question: will the upshot of this Italo-German collaboration result in the allegation of new German interests and rights in the Mediterranean? It is quite likely, in fact, that Germany, being as concerned as Italy herself as regards the transportation of mineral products from East Africa to Europe, will direct its attention towards Suez. Like Italy, Berlin will favor the motion to reform the statute and tariffs of the canal.

In short, with her mining interests in East Africa, Germany may change her attitude completely as regards the eastern Mediterranean basin. Having opened the door of the Mediterranean to Germany last year with the concession of an airport in an island of the Aegean Sea, does Italy now intend to keep this door wide open to Germany?

#### COMMENT :

By granting Germany a preference in the procurement of minerals of which she is much in need, Italy disavows de facto any British and French mining rights acquired under the terms of conventions and treaties contracted with the Negus before the Italian conquest of Ethiopia in the zone (Uollega and Harrar) in which the Italo-German Mining Company will operate.

It is believed that Italy will be willing to stipulate separate agreements with the British or French on matters regarding the economic development of Ethiopia and the participation of foreign capital in commercial enterprises. However, as in the case of the Italo-German East African Mining Company it appears that she will suffer no foreign power to gain a majority share or lasting control over any branch of production in East Africa.

So far the East African Mining Company has been assured a capitalization of 50,000,000 lire - subscription to the remaining 150,000,000 lire will largely depend upon the findings of the Italo-German scientific research mission.

It would appear that the French attitude as expressed in "Le Temps" is based not only on commercial and political self interest but is propaganda directed at the British-Italian Mediterranean Agreement.

G. H. PAINE,  
Colonel, F. A., U. S. A.,  
Military Attaché.



DATED Feb. 24, 1937 FROM THE  
AMERICAN EMBASSY, ROME, ITALY.

ITALY (ECONOMIC)

Subject : MINING - General.Constitution of the East Africa Mining Administration.

By a Royal Decree published January 30, 1937 a Government organization called the "East Africa Mining Administration" was founded for the purpose of prospecting and mining mineral ores in East Africa. The Administration will be controlled and supervised by the Ministry of Colonies.

Its central headquarters will be in Addis Abeba, with sections in each province. The Administration will have a budget of its own; this budget will be included as an appendix to the budget of Italian East Africa.

The Administration is authorized to:

- a) prospect for mineral ores;
- b) carry on its own mining enterprises;
- c) buy out mining organizations and take them under its own management; improve the productive efficiency of those mining organizations which remain under private management.

The mining, utilization, distribution and sale of mineral ores will be regulated by a financial-technical plan to be approved by the Ministry of Colonies together with the Ministry of Finance.

The Governors of Italian East Africa may withdraw mining licenses when it is considered in the public interest or utility to do so and when compatible with the prescribed aims of the East Africa Mining Administration.

Claims for damages will in such cases be settled by the Governor and a Commission presided over by the highest ranking government official. The Commission will be composed of two government mining officials and the chief accountant of the provincial government.

Appeals against the decisions of the Governor will be forwarded to the Minister of the Colonies who will hand down a final decision. Appeals do not suspend action on withdrawal of concessions.

## COMMENT :

The above decree extends wide discriminatory powers to military governors of East African provinces and other government officials as regards the mining licenses and mining concessions or grants of private concerns operating in their territorial jurisdiction. With the creation of the governmental "East Africa Mining Administration" private mining concerns in East Africa may be dissolved simply by withdrawing their prospecting licenses or mining grants and their interests absorbed by the Administration. This also indicates that the government will not subsidize concerns that cannot stand on their own resources. The East Africa Mining Administration, on the other hand, will be



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COMMENT : financed by the government and should become one of the  
(cont'd) largest and most important prospecting and mining organizations in East Africa.

There are at present four private mining concerns in East Africa: (1) the "East Africa Mining Company" (see ITALY No. 15760-4100); (2) the "Platinifera Frasso Company"; (3) the "A. M. A. G. Company"; (4) the "Ethiopian Mining Company".

G. H. PAINE,  
Colonel, F.A., U.S.A.,  
Military Attaché.

Sources: Gazzetta Ufficiale, No. 24, January 30, 1937  
R. D. No. 2331, November 30, 1936.



DATED Feb 24, 1937 FROM THE  
AMERICAN EMBASSY, ROME, ITALY.

ITALY (ECONOMIC)

Subject : Mineral Fuel (Raw Material)  
Lignite Coal in Abyssinia.

The following article appeared in the "Azione Coloniale"; and was written by Prof. Bonarelli a well known expert on the subject.

" A rich field of lignite coal of fine quality has been discovered in Abyssinia. The exact location of the field has not been made known; we know, however, that it is situated about 250 kms. north-west of Addis Abeba. The lignite coal is found in a stratum some 7 meters thick. The discovery was made by personnel of the "Geological and Mining Service" of the Empire.....

This news inspires some reflection. The existence of coal in various localities of Ethiopia has been considered possible. Its occurrence has been reported as nearly certain in the localities of Angareb valley, north-west of Gondar, in the Beghemeder (Uadla), and in the vicinity of Debra Libanos, Ancober, etc.

The new discovery brings to light an excellent fuel with high heat capacity, consisting very likely of old lignite deposits of the Secondary Age alternated with sediments of the Mesozoic Age, the latter of which occur very frequently in the locality in question. The new discovery, together with past discoveries in the regions above named, lead us to believe in the existence of similar deposits over areas of considerable extent. "

G. H. PAINE,  
Colonel, F.A., U.S.A.,  
Military Attaché.

Sources: "Azione Colonial", December 3, 1936.



G-2 Report.

ENCLOSURE No. 4 TO No. 233 6410  
DATED Feb. 24, 1937 FROM THE  
AMERICAN EMB. ROME, ITALY.

ITALY (COMBAT - ARMY)

Subject: Pay and Emoluments.

Bonus to Military Personnel Upon Discharge from  
Service in the Colonies.

For previous report on this subject attention is  
invited to ITALY NO. 15,609-6410, November 6, 1936.

By order of the Head of the Government, the fol-  
lowing bonuses will be paid to military personnel who rendered service  
in East Africa during the period of operations, viz. between October 3,  
Nineteen Thirty-Five (1935) and September 30, 1936, payment to be  
made upon their discharge from service:

Marshals .....	547	lire	(\$28.80)
Sergeant majors or sergeants.	437	"	(\$23.00)
Corporal majors or corporals.	381	"	(\$20.00)
Soldiers .....	326	"	(\$17.00)

For military personnel who served in Lybia and the  
Aegean Islands during the same period the bonus will be as follows:

Marshals .....	437	lire
Sergeant majors or sergeants..	328	"
Corporal majors or corporals.	272	"
Soldiers .....	218	"

Bonuses are not given to military personnel who reenlist for  
a new term of service, who receive life pension or are employed by the  
State. A minimum of four months service in the colonies is required  
for bonus. The period of service in colonies is computed from the  
date of embarkation for the colonies to the date of debarkation in  
Italy from the colonies. In case of death in line of duty, the bonus  
is paid to heirs and no minimum period of service in the colonies is  
necessary. Bonus money is not subject to seizure for personal debts  
or to taxation.

Native troops do not have right to the bonus.

NOTE: The above bonuses are somewhat less than those granted under the  
previous law (see ITALY NO. 15,609-6410). This may be because the  
"ritenuta" (government tax) has already been deducted from the present  
figures.

Sources: Gazzetta Ufficiale #286,  
Dec. 11, 1936,  
R.D.#2067, Oct. 1, 1936.

G. H. PAINE,  
Colonel, Field Artillery, U.S.A.,  
Military Attaché.



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ENCLOSURE No. 5 DESPATCH NO. 233

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DATED Feb. 24, 1937 FROM THE  
AMERICAN EMBASSY, ROME, ITALY.

ITALY (COMBAT - ARMY)

Subject : Minor Military Operations.

Operations in Abyssinia.

For previous reports on this subject see ITALY No. 15573, 15590, 15655, 15700, 15712 under 6920.

Marshal Graziani has turned his attention now to the one remaining center of organized resistance in Abyssinia, i.e. the forces of Ras Desta Dantou and Ras Benene Mered in the BALE territory. These troops total about 10,000 men.

General NASI, Military Governor of HARRAR, has moved his headquarters to GONDI where he is in personal command of the troops of his territory. The MARIOTTI Native Brigade and the LIBYA Division under General GUBEDDU have made contact and are at NASI's disposition.

General GELOSO, Military Governor of the GALLA-SIDAMO territory and commander of the LAKES Division (Divisione Special dei Laghi) has completed his operation against Ras Imiru. The latter was captured and returned to Italy by air where he is now imprisoned on the Island of PONZA. General GELOSO is now cooperating in the operation against DESTA and MERED.

Marshal Graziani has established headquarters at IRGALIM (near ALLATA) from which he will direct personally the campaign to eliminate this last organized opposition to Italian control.

NO COMMENT

G. H. PAINE, Colonel, P. A.,  
Military Attache

NORMAN E. FISKE,  
Major, Cav., U.S.A.,  
Assistant Military Attaché.



DATED Feb 24, 1937  
AMERICAN EMB

ITALY.

ITALY (POLITICAL)

Subject : Commercial Treaties and Agreements.British-Italian Accord for East Africa.

On January 18, 1937 negotiations were begun between Great Britain and Italy to regulate traffic across the Ethiopian - British Somaliland border. Conversations were engaged by Mr. Plowman, vice-governor of British Somaliland and Mr. Lee, head of the East Africa Department of the Colonial Office, representing Great Britain, Mr. Buti, minister plenipotentiary, and Mr. Cerulli, representing Italy. An accord was reached on January 27, 1937 whereby natives inhabiting the border regions of Ethiopia and British Somaliland may cross the border without restrictions to pasture and water their herds. In other words, natives of British Somaliland may bring their animals to pasture in Ethiopia and natives of Ethiopia into British Somaliland. This understanding was necessary because the seasons of favorable pasturage differ in the regions in question; the accord furthermore responds to long standing migratory customs of the natives. The accord also opens the border to trade between Ethiopia and British Somaliland, especially as regards the ports of Berbera and Zeila.

Due to the inadequacy of the Djibouti - Addis Abeba railway, the British-Italian accord is expected to direct part of Ethiopia's trade to British Somaliland. It is recalled that before the Italian conquest of Ethiopia, the British had negotiated with the Negus to build a road or railway from Zeila into the central part of Ethiopia.

## COMMENT :

The British-Italian border agreement is of political importance because it shows that notwithstanding her past opposition to Italian conquest, England is willing to develop friendly relations with Italy in East Africa. The accord, in fact, has been interpreted in Italian and French political circles as a "de facto" recognition by England of Italian sovereignty over Ethiopia. Following upon the recent British-Italian "gentlemen's agreement" of January 2, 1937, re the Mediterranean "status quo", the new accord is a marked indication of improved British-Italian relations and a basis for further understanding. Should Italian East Africa be developed economically, trade relations with the British territories, surrounding practically 2/3 of the country, will assume increasing importance.

G. H. PAINE,  
Colonel, F.A., U.S.A.,  
Military Attaché.



G-2 Report.

MILITARY ATTACHE  
American Embassy  
Rome, Italy

ENCLOSURE No. 7 DESPATCH NO. 233

2010

DATED Feb 24, 1937 FROM THE  
AMERICAN EMBASSY, ROME, ITALY.

ITALY (POPULATION AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS).

Subject: Population.

Statistical Data on the Population of Italian  
East Africa and Libya.

The following official Italian estimate of population in East Africa is as of June 30, 1936:

The New Italian East Africa Empire covers an area of 1,708,00 sq. kms. with a population of about 7,600,000.

The distribution of population is approximately as follows: province of Vitrea, 1,000,000; province of Somaliland, 1,300,000; province of Amhara, 2,000,000; province of Galla and Sidamo, 1,600,000; province of Harar, 1,400,000; governorship of Addis Abeba, 300,000.

The estimated density of population on the territory of the Empire is 4.45 inhabitants per square kilometer. The greatest density is naturally in the governorship of Addis Abeba with 42.46 inhabitants per sq. km. The least density is found in the province of Somaliland with 1.85 per square kilometer.

As regards Libya, this colony covers a total of 1,775,932 sq. k. - slightly more than the size of the East African Empire. The population of Libya, according to the census of April 21, 1935 is 704,000, with 123 foreigners.

NOTE: The above figures are exclusive of Italian troops and workingmen operating in the African territories but considered residents of Italy.

G. H. PAINE,  
Colonel, Field Artillery, U.S.A.,  
Military Attaché.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
DIVISION OF WESTERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

February 15, 1937



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In connection with Rome's telegram No. 54 concerning the likelihood of de jure recognition of Italian sovereignty over Ethiopia being extended by the British and other governments at about the time of the May meeting of the League Council it may be well to renew consideration of extending such recognition by this Government. If it is decided to extend such recognition it might be well to do so as far as possible in advance of the May Council meeting.

The only possible legal impediment to such action appears to be Article 2 of the Anti-War Treaty of Non-Aggression and Conciliation of October 10, 1933, (ratified by the President on June 27, 1934) which reads:

"They declare that as between the high contracting parties territorial questions must not be settled by violence, and that they will not recognize any territorial arrangement which is not obtained by pacific means, nor the validity of the occupation or acquisition of territories that may be brought about by force of arms."

Italy has adhered to the Treaty, but its instrument of adherence specifically stated that adherence was subject to ratification, which has not been forthcoming, and that "Italy's adherence with regard to

Article

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Article 2 of the Treaty will go into effect as from the date which the Royal Government may itself establish." No such date has yet been set, as far as the Department is aware. It is the opinion of the Treaty Division that the Treaty is not binding as between this Government and Italy. Ethiopia never adhered to the Treaty. Furthermore, the President ratified the Treaty subject to the reservation that "In adhering to this Treaty the United States does not thereby waive any rights it may have under other treaties or conventions or under international law," a reservation which appears amply to nullify the provisions of Article 2 respecting recognition.

The formula used by Secretary of State John Quincy Adams in his note of April 6, 1822, to the then Spanish Minister in Washington concerning recognition of the first Latin American republics, when he stated that recognition "is merely the acknowledgement of existing facts", might be of value. In addition to being simple, honest and realistic, it affords a differentiation between the status of Ethiopia and that of Manchukuo. As a question of fact there is no doubt as to Italian sovereignty over Ethiopia but, as a question of fact, there is considerable doubt as the existence of Manchukuo as an independent and fully sovereign state.



## DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 767.68119/998 FOR #220

FROM Turkey ( MacMurray ) DATED Feb. 20, 1937

TO NAME 1-1127 o p o

REGARDING: Recognition of Ethiopian annexation by Italy.

Conversation between Mr. Shaw and Numan Menemencioglu of the Foreign Office, in which Numan Bey stated that Count Ciano had pressed for de jure recognition, but that Turkey had replied that withdrawal of her Legation at Addis Ababa had given de facto recognition, but de jure recognition would have to come from Geneva.

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## DOCUMENT FILE

### NOTE

SEE 841.00 P.R./480 FOR #2895

FROM Great Britain (Atherton) DATED March 1, 1937  
TO NAME 1-1127 670

REGARDING: Invitation to Abyssinia to attend the Coronation.  
Article in the TIMES that the reason for the,-  
is that Britain is not prepared to take any  
step towards de jure recognition of Italian  
Empire in Abyssinia without common consultation  
with her fellowmembers of the League.

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## Invitation to the Coronation and Abyssinia.

Invitations have been extended by the British Government to heads of Governments to be represented at the Coronation and some forty-three have already accepted and appointed representatives.

A presumably officially inspired article in THE TIMES, of February 27, in regard to Italian resentment over extension of an invitation to Emperor Haile Selassie stated that, "The simple reason for the invitation is, of course, that Britain is not prepared to take any step towards de jure recognition of the Italian Empire in Abyssinia without common consultation with her fellow-members of the League of Nations." Reference was made in the article to the fact that the Italian Ambassador and the Ethiopian Minister both attended, early in February, a ceremony at which they presented their new Letters of Credence to the King, and that no comment had been made in regard to that. It was stated also that prolonged controversy on the topic would be regretted in England because of detracting from the Coronation and the spirit of the Mediterranean Declaration, signed on January 2nd.

The MORNING POST and the DAILY MAIL on February 24 both expressed the opinion that some way might have been found to issue the invitation to Emperor Haile Selassie

without/



without causing offence to Italy. The MANCHESTER GUARDIAN, of February 25, commented, in part:

"Having conquered his country, killed his friends, and deprived him of all power, Italy should not grudge the Emperor the right to an empty title. x x x "

The Diplomatic correspondent of the OBSERVER in an article on February 28 referred to the Government's stand in connection with the Coronation invitation to Abyssinia as a juridical absurdity, on the ground that Great Britain is endeavoring to recognize Abyssinia de jure and refusing to recognize it de facto, as indicated by transforming the British Legation at Addis Ababa into a Consulate General.

Mr. Eden, when asked in the House of Commons on March 1 why the Abyssinian Government was invited to send a representative to the Coronation, replied that the invitation was issued in accordance with precedent and was based entirely on the de jure position, and that it would be a mistake to attach special political significance to a matter of purely normal procedure.

The DAILY TELEGRAPH on March 1 reported that Emperor Haile Selassie's eldest son, the Crown Prince, who is 21, will come to London for the Coronation and may represent his father.



# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 124.84/151 FOR memorandum

FROM State Department (Dunn) DATED Mar. 6, 1937  
~~XXXX~~ WE NAME 1127 070

REGARDING:

Withdrawal of representation from Ethiopia is  
not to be construed with having any relationship  
with the question of recognition of Italian authority  
over Ethiopia.

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# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 701.6515/6 FOR Despatch #638

FROM Honduras ( Keena ) DATED March 4, 1937  
TO \_\_\_\_\_ NAME \_\_\_\_\_ 1-1127 070

### REGARDING:

King Victor Emanuel's title of Emperor of Ethiopia:  
Decree issued by Honduran Government by which Enrico Bombieri's  
diplomatic status as Italian Minister to Honduras is recognizeu  
acknowledges - although no formal recognition of the conquest  
of Ethiopia by Italy has ever been given.

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Tegucigalpa, Honduras, March 4, 1937.

No. 638

Arrival of Italian Minister.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that Dr. Enrico Bombieri, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Italy to Honduras, arrived in Tegucigalpa on Saturday February 27th and presented his credentials to the President of Honduras on March 3rd. He is returning today, March 4th, to Guatemala, to which country he is also accredited

and



and where he maintains his residence.

There is enclosed herewith a translation of the decree issued by the Honduran Government, by which Dr. Bombieri's diplomatic status is recognized. It is interesting to note that, although no formal recognition of the conquest of Ethiopia by Italy has ever been given, the decree acknowledges King Victor Emanuel's title of Emperor of Ethiopia.

Respectfully yours,

L.J. Keena.

Enclosure:

Translation of Decree.

20



En esta misma fecha el Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores ha emitido el acuerdo de reconocimiento que dice:

**SECRETARIA DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES.** — Tegudigalpa, 3 de marzo de 1937. — Con vista de la carta de Cancillería fecha 17 de diciembre del año recién pasado, dirigida por Su Majestad Víctor Manuel III, por la Gracia de Dios y por la voluntad de la Nación, Rey de Italia, Emperador de Etiopía, en la cual acredita al Excelentísimo Señor Doctor Enrico Bombieri, con el carácter de Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario de aquella Nación ante el Gobierno de Honduras,

**EL PRESIDENTE DE LA REPUBLICA,  
ACUERDA:**

1°—Reconocer al Excelentísimo Señor Doctor Enrico Bombieri, en su elevado carácter de Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario de Su Majestad Víctor Manuel III, por la Gracia de Dios y por la voluntad de la Nación, Rey de Italia, Emperador de Etiopía; y

2°—Disponer que las autoridades nacionales le guarden y hagan guardar los honores, inmunidades y preeminencias que corresponden a los Agentes Diplomáticos de su categoría. — Comuníquese.

**CARIAS A.** — El Secretario de Estado en el Despacho de Relaciones Exteriores, **ANTONIO BERMUDEZ M.**



Translation.

On this same date the Minister of Foreign Relations has issued the decree of recognition which states:

SECRETARIAT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS.- Tegucigalpa, March 3, 1937. In view of the Chancery's letter dated December 17, of last year, addressed by His Majesty Victor Emanuel III, by the Grace of God and the Will of the Nation, King of Italy, Emperor of Ethiopia, in which he accredits His Excellency Dr. Enrico Bombieri as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of that nation to the Government of Honduras,

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC  
DECREES:

1/ That His Excellency Dr. Enrico Bombieri be recognized in his high position of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Majesty Victor Emanuel III, by the Grace of God and by the Will of the Nation, King of Italy, Emperor of Ethiopia; and

2/ That the national authorities be instructed to grant and have granted to him the honor, immunities and rank which pertain to diplomatic agents of his class.

Let it be communicated.-

CARIAS A.

The Secretary of State for Foreign  
Relations.-

ANTONIO BERMUDEZ M.



# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 760h.65/714 FOR Tel.129, 6 p.m.

FROM Italy (Phillips) DATED Mar.26, 1937  
TO NAME 1-1127 ope

REGARDING: Political and economic agreements between Yugoslavia and Italy  
signed at Belgrade March 25.

Through the title King Emperor in the text of the agreements  
Yugoslavia recognizes the Italian Empire.

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GRAY

Rome

Dated March 26, 6 p. m.

Rec'd 2:55 p. m.

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

129, March 26, 6 p. m.

My 127, March 26, 10 a. m.

Commenting on the Italo-Yugoslav agreements the Government spokesman this afternoon makes the following points.

Through the title King Emperor in the text of the agreements Yugoslavia recognized the Italian Empire thus eliminating all obstacles of formality in her relations with Italy and giving the measures of her desire for collaboration.

The political agreement may be defined as an Adriatic pact inspired in part by the Italo-British Mediterranean agreement but more specific in function and robust in content. Incidentally it was reached without any reference to the League and therefore lies outside the framework thereof although concretely applying those fundamental League principles in which Geneva **itself** has so largely failed. The bases of the agreement may be summarized as follows.

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LMS 2-No. 129, March 26, 6 p. m., from Rome.

The two countries recognize the territorial status quo, exclude the possibility of any conflict arising from their mutual relations, and agree not to make war upon each other for any reason.

The pledge of neutrality in case of unprovoked aggression means that a direct threat to either country "from any quarter whatsoever" will receive no direct or indirect cooperation from the other.

The pledge of concerted measures in the event of international complications endangering their mutual interests automatically creates a common front between the two countries in many potential contingencies and introduces a further factor for stability in their relations.

Article four means that the two countries, loyal to a genuine good neighbor policy, have decided to "pacify and dissipate surviving irredentist movements" on both sides and suppress all foreign propaganda against the interests of either party. The minorities in Dalmatia and the Adriatic Islands and in Venetia Julia will benefit by this peaceful regime since the two governments will take steps to satisfy their legitimate aspirations and national and economic needs.

The economic



LMS 3-No. 129, March 26, 6 p. m., from Rome.

The economic agreement may be regarded as a general accord on economic policy envisaging increasingly close and stable understandings.

The Italo-Yugoslav agreements are characterized by that simplicity of principle and mechanism which alone guarantees durability and efficiency in international pacts and together constitute a sound basis for further construction. At the same time they help to stabilize the positions of the other Danubian and Balkan countries. Albania's security is strengthened by the agreement which represents international confirmation of her integrity and independence. The agreement is naturally supplemented by the previous and separate Yugoslav-Bulgarian treaty to the conclusion of which Italy contributed and which she regards as terminating that tendency toward the isolation and encirclement of Bulgaria which under certain aspects had seemed to dominate general Balkan politics. At the same time negotiations continue for a clarification of Italo-Turkish relations. "Herein lies the constructive peacefulness of Italian policy in which large armaments do not signify a program of war but only a necessary guarantee insuring the developments of clear national policy".

PHILLIPS

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# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 701.1965/11 FOR Tel. 151, 5pm

FROM Italy (Phillips) DATED April 9, 1937  
TO NAME 1-1127 GPO

### REGARDING:

Antonio Burgos, Panamanian Minister to Italy, presented his credentials addressed to King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia.

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Rome

Dated April 9, 1937

Rec'd 3:20 p. m.

Secretary of State

Washington.

151, April 9, 5 p. m.

It is officially announced in the press this morning and subsequently confirmed by the Legation of Panama here new Minister of Panama Antonio Burgos yesterday presented his credentials addressed to the King of Italy and Emperor of Ethiopia.

PHILLIPS

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APR 1 2 1937  
DIVISION OF  
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

19 1937

865D.01/270

The Honorable Cordell Hull  
Secretary of State

Dear Sir:-

I see by the New York Times, that the United States legation at Addis Ababa has been closed. Would you be good enough to inform me as to whether this act has any legal effect upon the position of the United States in regard to recognition of Italy's conquest of Ethiopia? I am interested to know whether, in view of the Stimson doctrine, the closing of a legation in conquered territory involves recognition of the conqueror's claim to this territory.

Yours very truly,  
Margaret E. Bulfinch

April 8, 1937



4/16-3:45  
4/17-10:00

April 19 1937

In reply refer to  
NE 865D.01/270

Miss Margaret E. Burton,  
10 Mitchell Place,  
New York, New York.

Madam:

The Department acknowledges the receipt of your letter of April 8, 1937, in which you ask whether the closing of the American Legation at Addis Ababa has any legal effect upon this Government's position in regard to the recognition of Italy's conquest of Ethiopia.

As already announced by this Department, the closing of the Legation at Addis Ababa was in accordance with this Government's usual practice of terminating representation in any district where the services of resident officers of the United States are no longer required by American interests. In taking this step the Government of the United States has raised no new question regarding its attitude toward Italian claims in Ethiopia.

Very truly yours,

For the Secretary of State:

Wallace Murray,  
Chief, Division of Near Eastern Affairs.

NE MBG/GC  
MSG.

A true copy of  
the signed original.  
270

865D.01/270

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Central File: Decimal File 865D.01, Internal Affairs Of States, Italian East Africa, Government. Mandates, Recognition., Apr. 29, 1936. 29 Apr. 1936. MS European Colonialism in the Early 20th Century. National Archives (United States). Archives Unbound, [link.gale.com/apps/doc/FSC5109727972/FGDSC%3Fu%3Domni%26sid%3Dbookmark-GDSC](https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/FSC5109727972/FGDSC%3Fu%3Domni%26sid%3Dbookmark-GDSC). Accessed 18 June 2025.